



LAUGHING GAS DANGER ALERT

BY THOMAS PARKES

A WARNING has been issued to youngsters over the dangers of laughing gas.

Councillors have urged people to 'be very careful' after silver canisters of nitrous oxide, better known as laughing gas or hippie crack, were found dumped on a street between Shaw's Lane and Walsall Road in Great Wyrley.

Side effects of laughing gas include hallucinations and dizziness, depending on how much is taken. It is commonly used to numb pain during medical procedures, to increase the power output in engines and for use in catering.

Councillor Bernard Williams, who represents Cheslyn Hay, Essington and Great Wyrley on Staffordshire County Council, said: "As a council, we are always warning youngsters to be very careful of what they are doing.

"Taking drugs or using these laughing canisters, it's stuff they shouldn't be taking. What they have got to be wary of is that there will be deaths. They've got to be aware and they've got to stop taking drugs. I live in Shareshill and I see canisters around there, too. They are being mentioned at the parish council of Cheslyn Hay, and they're everywhere you're going.

"It's a fad and they have got to get out of this nonsense. Just because someone is starting to do it doesn't mean you should.

Risk

"I'm sure most people don't want to be termed a 'grass', but quite frankly they've got to tell people to stop and if they don't, one way or another they've got to let the authorities know where and when it's happening. They are going to be very ill – or dying – if it keeps up."

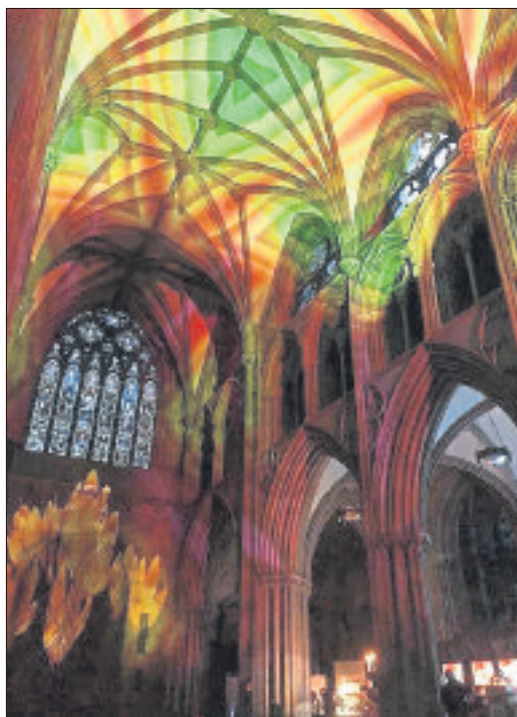
Councillor Darren Foley, who represents Brereton and Ravenhill on Cannock Chase Council, said: "Our young people need to be informed of the dangers of inhaling Nitrous Oxide. Nitrous oxide is taken from small silver canisters into balloons and inhaled.

"The gas can cause dizziness, and therefore impair your judgment, putting you at risk.

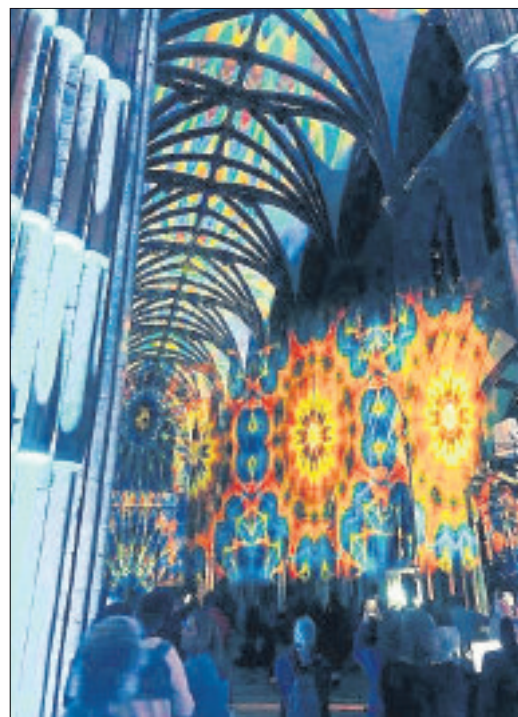
"When laughing gas is inhaled, it removes the oxygen from your lungs and replaces it with nitrous oxide, this can cause unconsciousness or death due to a lack of oxygen. Mixing alcohol with nitrous oxide can be fatal."

A spokesperson for Staffordshire Police said: "Nitrous oxide can be a dangerous substance if it is misused or consumed without medical supervision. Any attempt to interfere with these pressurised cylinders may result in serious injury. Anyone who is offered this substance or sees discarded cylinders is asked to contact Staffordshire Police on 101."

CATHEDRAL LIGHTS SHOW ATTRACTS 12K VISITORS



Lights and sound filled the nave of Lichfield Cathedral



The incredible lights show drew thousands of visitors

ALMOST 12,000 visitors attended Lichfield Cathedral's magical light spectacular as it drew huge crowds over 11 days.

Visitors were immersed in breathtaking sound and light displays and artworks throughout the cathedral during The Great Exhibition: Imagine Peace marking 100 years since the end of the First World War. It was created by resident artist Peter Walker, along with the creative team at Luxmuralis.

A Peace Woodland outside the cathedral

created a labyrinth of 1,918 trees. These will now be planted in Beacon Park in the city as part of the new Peace Woodland being created to mark the 100 years anniversary.

During the exhibition visitors made over 5,000 origami doves with their own messages of peace inside. These doves will become part of the next exhibition – The Doves of Peace when they are installed in the nave before The Great Exhibition at Christmas: Peace on Earth which will open on December 17.

Mr Walker said: "We had people from all round the country and some wonderful reactions including one girl who said it was the best experience of her life.

"I was touched by how people related to the messages of peace and the intention of the exhibition, and surprised by the sheer number of visitors and how long people were spending immersing themselves in it.

"I look forward to showing them something special again this Christmas."

PLANNING

Protesters fail to stop turkey farm

PLANS for a turkey farm are to go ahead – despite neighbours' concerns about odours and animal welfare.

South Staffordshire Council's planning committee have voted to approve the scheme after a councillor said they had a duty to keep the population fed.

Residents fighting the scheme collected 6,700 signatures on a petition against the proposals to build four turkey sheds on Toft Farm at Levedale, near Penkridge.

Councillor Isabel Ford supported the application, adding: "We're still responsible for feeding our population."

TRANSPORT

Bus company to axe more services

TIMETABLE changes taking effect this weekend will see more bus services in Staffordshire scrapped.

The move by Arriva Midlands affects passengers in Burntwood, Great Wyrley, Rugeley and Stafford.

It comes after all Sunday services in Cannock and Stafford were cut by Arriva after funding was axed by Staffordshire County Council earlier this year.

● Full report – Page 3

CRIME

Hotspot is named as car thefts soar

CAR theft is on the rise – with shocking figures showing that the Black Country is now a hotspot for vehicle-related crime.

In Staffordshire, there were 5,533 car thefts in 2016-17 compared with 6,189 in 2017-18. Wolverhampton is the worst affected area in the region, with a 40 per cent jump. The figures, released by UK Crime Statistics, show that last year was the worst on record since 2012 for car thefts.

INSIDE

JED HAS YET ANOTHER HIT



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Proms has something for everyone



Anando Mukerjee - singer

THERE are plenty of musical treats in store for the audience at Lichfield Proms in Beacon Park on Saturday.

Festivities will start with children's activities from 5.30pm, then the City of Lichfield Concert Band will warm up the audience from 6pm, and The British Police Symphony Orchestra will take to the stage at 7.30pm for the main event.

The City of Lichfield Concert Band will be playing a mixture of popular classical music, musical medleys, jazz, film scores and well known pop songs, followed by the 75-piece British Police Symphony Orchestra conducted by

Richard Jenkinson, who will be joined on stage by experienced compere Pc Danny Mizon.

Together they will take concert-goers through the main programme, which includes music from La Bohème, Star Trek, Adagio from Spartacus, the Dambusters March, a First World War medley, Sea Songs and more.

The programme will also feature two singers, Claire Prewer and Anando Mukerjee, and will end with a fireworks finale and Proms anthems such as Pomp and Circumstance No 1 and Jerusalem. Richard Jenkinson, music director

and conductor of the British Police Symphony Orchestra, said: "Our line-up includes something for everyone, combining popular film and TV music, with opera and rousing classical pieces that I know the audience will love."

Councillor Bob Awty, chairman of Lichfield District Council, said: "With top-class music, picnicking under the stars in the beautiful surroundings of Beacon Park, and plenty of community cheer, our twentieth Lichfield Proms promises to be a fantastic event for the whole family." For details, visit www.lichfelddc.gov.uk/lichfieldproms

Blueprint highlights pledge on prosperity

PROSPERITY and wellbeing are fresh priorities in Cannock Chase Council's vision for the future of the district.

They are the cornerstone of the authority's new Corporate Plan, which follows a public survey that ran up until last December.

Council bosses say 'promoting prosperity' and 'community wellbeing' are part of a more focused and cohesive approach to their commitment to residents and businesses.

As well as setting out the council's priorities for the next five years, the plan also looks back at key achievements delivered as part of the last one.

Councillor John Kraujalis, corporate improvement portfolio leader, said: "Our new Corporate Plan was published last month, setting out our priorities and focus for the future.

"We are ambitious for the future and aim to build on recent progress and make sure that we can attract more opportunities for our local communities.

Skills

"Our commitment to residents and businesses in the district is that we will remain focused on the issues that are important in Cannock Chase, however difficult and challenging these may be."

The plan is backed up by two new investment funds – the District Investment Fund for improving skills, infrastructure and business growth, plus the Housing Investment Fund to support a major expansion of high-quality social housing in the district.

Councillor Kraujalis added: "The council works in partnership with a wide range of public, private and voluntary organisations.

"The challenges facing this district are complex, and no organisation acting alone will be able to address these.

"Making progress means being committed to collaboration within the district, across Staffordshire and the whole West Midlands region."

Volunteering changed my life



Phil Bant - 'I loved my job but I just felt there was something more to life'

A FATHER from Cannock who said volunteering for the fire service 'changed his life' is now urging others to come forward and take the same leap he did.

It comes after Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service issued a plea for more volunteers and retained firefighters.

Phil Bant, aged 48, has volunteered for the service for nine

months after admitting he needed 'a complete life change'.

He had been working full-time as a tyre salesman. "I wanted to change my life," Phil said.

"I loved my job but I just felt there was something more to life."

Phil said he had been on a fire warden course through work, run by West Midlands Fire Service, which gave him the idea of volun-

teering. He added: "My personal situation changed that allowed me to make the decision to leave my job."

Phil now volunteers three to five days a week, conducting safe-and-well checks and carrying out post-incident reports.

He also volunteers one day a week at Compton Care's charity shop in Cannock.

Patients in 180-mile journey for treatment

MENTAL health patients in South Staffordshire were sent up to 180 miles away for treatment because their needs could not be met locally.

The former South Staffordshire and Shropshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust spent tens of thousands of pounds in a year by sending them away, with some having to travel as far as Somerset.

Figures from the NHS show that between June 2017 and May this year, the trust placed patients with acute mental health needs in inappropriate 'out of area placements' on about 40 occasions.

The mental health charity Mind says the impact on a patient's mental health 'cannot be overstated'.

Bosses at the trust, which merged with Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Partnership NHS Trust to form the Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (MPFT) in June, say patients are sent outside of the county when their needs cannot be met locally.

Dr John Lister, co-chair of Keep Our NHS Public, said a 'cash squeeze' had left NHS trusts under pressure to reduce frontline mental health services.

A spokeswoman for the Department of Health and Social Care said: "It is unacceptable for patients to be sent away."

"That's why the NHS is opening more beds to tackle this and we have committed to eliminating inappropriate placements by 2020-21."

Hospital in 100pc cleanliness rating

COUNTY Hospital in Stafford has achieved a highest cleanliness rating following a recent inspection.

The University Hospitals of the North Midlands NHS Trust, for a second successive year, has achieved above the national average in all categories of the annual Patient-Led Assessment of the Care Environment (PLACE).

The assessments see assessors record how the environment supports patients' privacy and dignity, food, cleanliness and general building maintenance.

County Hospital received a 100 per cent rating for cleanliness – above the national average of 98.4. Its food score was 92.74 per cent, dementia 94.39 per cent and disability 95.87 per cent. The score for privacy, dignity and wellbeing was 96.54 per cent while condition, appearance and maintenance was 99.6.

Burglars take BMW

A WHITE convertible BMW was stolen from the driveway of a house in Redfern Drive, Burntwood. The thieves broke into the property and grabbed a spare key which was used to drive off with the car. The incident happened overnight between Thursday and Friday.

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Trust needs £3k in wake of beauty spot blaze

STAFFORDSHIRE Wildlife Trust has launched an appeal to buy new firefighting and prevention equipment in the wake of the massive fire on The Roaches.

It needs additional specialist equipment in the event of further fires at the north Staffordshire beauty spot or at other moorland sites in the county

The trust hopes to raise £3,500 – and more than £1,000 has already been pledged at www.justgiving.com/fundraising/roaches-fire

It needs water pumps and back packs, two portable 10,000-litre reservoirs to provide emergency water supplies, fireproof overalls, safety goggles and facemasks.

The huge moorland fire that swept across the Roaches affected more than 200 acres of moorland which will take at least 10 years to recover.

The blaze was started by a camp fire that quickly got out of control due to the dry conditions and strong winds.

At its height, 12 fire appliances were on site with welfare pods, water carriers and specialist equipment for fighting moorland fires. Some of this specialist equipment needed to be brought in from long distances as it was not available locally.

Moorland fires can smoulder for weeks or months due to peat in the ground with a danger that hotspots can flare up and catch fire again if they are not quickly dampened down.

Helpers wanted for litter pick

A LITTER pick will be held on Cannock Chase this Saturday between 10am and midday.

The Friends of Cannock Chase are looking for volunteers to help clean up the area for other users of the beauty spot.

They are supplying litter pickers, gloves and refuse sacks, and the meeting point is the Marquis Drive visitor centre.

Dozens of bags of rubbish were collected during a similar litter pick in May when 10 volunteers turned up to collect rubbish.

They managed to collect 41 bags of litter in two hours – almost four times the usual amount.

Call June Jukes on 01543 571241 for details of this weekend's event.

Branch meeting

THE Cannock branch of the Royal Engineers Association hold their monthly meeting on Monday at 8pm at the Ex-Servicemen's Club, in Wall-sall Road, Cannock. All Sappers are welcome. Call 01543 423319.

Smart travelcard scheme gets go-ahead



Swift cards can be topped up with credit

A 'SMART' travelcard scheme is to be introduced in the Cannock Chase district after approval by councillors.

Arriva and National Express West Midlands buses are already equipped to accept Swift cards.

And now Cannock Chase Council is to allocate £20,000 to pay for the installation of Swift card readers in key locations around the district as a result of being a non-constituent member of the West Midlands Combined Authority.

Councillor Gordon Alcott, portfolio leader for economic development and

planning, said: "Following meetings with Transport for West Midlands (TfWM) and bus operators I am delighted that the Swift smart card scheme will be rolled out in the district.

"This service will provide better accessibility for residents to employment, leisure and cultural activities through fostering sustainable transport and could potentially reduce road traffic in the district."

Card readers are proposed to be installed at Cannock bus station, the bus stops in Victoria Street, Hednes-

ford, Rugeley bus station and the Civic Centre, Cannock.

Passengers will be able to purchase one and four-week season tickets for Swift bus services through the website myswiftcard.com

They will also be able to purchase Swift pay-as-you-go credit which can be used on these services.

After buying through the website, passengers can transfer the digital ticket onto their Swift card using an Android phone. If they do not have an Android phone they can transfer it using a Swift card reader.

Fears over patients as more bus routes axed

MORE bus services in Staffordshire are to be axed when changes to timetables are made this weekend.

The move by Arriva Midlands will see four services serving Burntwood, Great Wyrley, Rugeley and Stafford no longer run from Saturday, September 1.

Both the 826 service and 827 from Rugeley and Brereton respectively will be cancelled, and the 835 from Burntwood and 837 service from Great Wyrley will also no longer be in operation. All services operate Monday to Friday.

Concerns have been raised over patients visiting Stafford's County Hospital from areas elsewhere in the county.

It comes after all Sunday bus services in Cannock and Stafford were cut by Arriva after funding was axed by Staffordshire County Council earlier this year.

County councillor Alan Dudson, ward member for Brereton and Ravenhill, said: "I am totally disappointed. I know these companies are private and they are there to make a profit but they have an obligation to the community.

Suffer

"I know they are business people. I am very surprised with the county council for withdrawing the funding earlier this year.

"They are in a predicament though because they have to save a lot of money so something has to suffer somewhere along the line. It is the tax payers that suffer and it reduces the opportunities for elderly people to get about. This is going to affect people getting to hospital."

Councillor Sue Woodward, leader of the opposition Labour group on the county council, said: "The people who rely on them really need them to be there and it might be a concern for people going to Stafford Hospital."

Following the axing of services in February, Simon Mathieson, of Arriva Midlands, said: "Cuts to funding will result in the withdrawal of all subsidised services provided by our Cannock depot on Sundays, as well as a number of other evening and daytime subsidised journeys during the rest of the week.

"The removal of these subsidised services will have an impact on services."



Celebrating are, from left, Beth Cooper, June Evans, Nicola Bannister, Susan Dalloe, Yvonne Cooper and Carol Moorcroft

Museum visitors assured of quality

THE Museum of Cannock Chase has been recognised by three leading tourism bodies for its friendly staff and high-quality courses.

VisitEngland has classed the museum in Valley Road, Hednesford, as a 'quality assured visitor attraction' in its Visitor Attraction Quality Scheme.

For the fifth consecutive time, the attraction has also received a Sandford Award, issued by the Heritage Education Trust, as well as an endorsement from the Arts Council-led Museums Accreditation Scheme.

Museum manager Alisa Bellingham said: "These latest awards and accreditations act as welcome recognition of the quality of the facilities and experiences being offered at the Museum of Cannock Chase. It is the fruit of the continued hard work and dedication from our valued workforce."

It comes after visitor numbers increased for 2017-18.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Wetherspoons ban on dogs in pubs

JD Wetherspoon is banning dogs from all of its 936 pubs.

The chain has said no dogs except assistance dogs will be allowed into its pubs from September 10. It comes after staff complained about cleaning up dog mess and raised issues of hygiene and the pets scaring children.

Wetherspoons spokesman Eddie Gershon said: "Even well behaved dogs can be unpredictable, every dog owner thinks their dog is perfect."

Owners have hit out at the company's decision to ban their pets from its pubs. The only exception to the ban will be assistance dogs such as guide dogs – a ruling customers agree with.

JCB joins May on Africa trade trip

JCB representatives will accompany Theresa May on her first visit to Africa as she sets out the growing opportunities on offer to UK businesses throughout the continent.

The Staffordshire company will be travelling alongside the Prime Minister as one of 29 delegates representing the best of British business in technology, infrastructure and financial and professional services.

Visiting South Africa, Nigeria, and Kenya, they will meet with businesses, policy makers and entrepreneurs in order to build new ties with the UK.

Rider in hospital after M6 crash

A MOTORCYCLIST was taken to hospital after a collision on the M6.

The incident happened at 11.20am on Friday between junctions 13 and 14 northbound near Stafford and a motorcyclist is on their way to Royal Stoke University Hospital.

Drivers experienced delays of about 50 minutes as two lanes were closed until they reopened shortly after 12.30pm.

A Staffordshire Police spokeswoman said: "The incident involved a car and a motorcycle, and the motorcyclist has been taken to hospital."

Traders urged to enter best-shop competition

TRADERS in and around Burntwood are being encouraged to enter the Best Small Shops Competition.

The call has gone out from Lichfield MP Michael Fabricant, who says the competition celebrates 'the creativity of small shops and the central role they play in their local community'.

Twenty five shortlisted shops will be invited to a parliamentary reception on November 13 to find out who will be crowned the winner.

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COUNTY NEWS

Average earnings below decade ago

AVERAGE earnings are still £13 a week lower than a decade ago, an economic think tank has reported.

Just over two million more people have found work since the financial crash of 2008, with more than a million of those in the poorest third of households, the research by the Resolution Foundation showed.

However, with 800,000 on zero-hours contracts, job insecurity is still "widespread" and real average earnings are still £13 a week less than a decade ago, it said. TUC general secretary Frances O'Grady accused the Government of turning a blind eye to stagnating wages.

Call for crackdown on antique guns

IN a bid to tackle the use of antique guns by criminals, West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson is calling on the government to tighten firearms laws.

He is urging changes to nine gun categories as concern grows over gang members buying antique weapons.

Mr Jamieson said: "It is vital the government makes it much harder for gang members and criminals in the West Midlands and beyond to get their hands on antique guns which can be turned into deadly weapons with relative ease. It needs to ensure obsolete calibre firearms don't fall into the wrong hands."

Ban on kitten and puppy sales likely

THE sale of puppies and kittens by pet shops and other commercial dealers will be banned under plans put out for consultation by the Government.

Anyone buying or adopting a pet less than six months old will have to deal directly with the breeder or a rescue centre under the proposed ban.

The move aims to reduce serious health problems and socialisation issues which afflict pets kept in poor conditions by unscrupulous, profit-driven breeders.

Appeal to take shorter showers

FAMILIES in the region have been urged to consider how much water they are using after a study found people shower for 10 minutes on average.

This summer's heatwave led to water shortages in parts of the UK.

Experts say time in the shower should be limited to four minutes but a new survey found people in the West Midlands generally spend 10 minutes having a wash.

Oh brother! Brainy duo excel in exams



John Langston, left, and his brother Will

THERE is clearly something in the genes when it comes to the Langston family.

For brothers John and Will Langston have both achieved 'outstanding' results in their GCSE and A-level exams at The Hart School in Rugeley.

The intelligent duo have cause to celebrate after being named as top achievers in

their year groups at the school.

John, aged 18, achieved A grades in maths, biology and psychology, while 16-year-old Will achieved 9s in maths, biology, chemistry, and physics and an A* in graphic design.

John will now go on from the school's sixth form to study psychology at Man-

chester University, while Will plans to follow in his brother's footsteps into the sixth form.

School principal Chris Keen said: "They are two young men that are thoroughly deserving of their success."

"They are popular with both staff and students and they have balanced their work and life over the course of

their education to achieve the best results possible."

The boys' father Steve Langston said: "We are both immensely proud of Will and John."

"They have worked incredibly hard to achieve the results they have and have been very well supported by all their teachers and support staff."

Celebrations as students make the (new) grade

By David Banner

PUPILS in Staffordshire have been getting to grips with the new GCSE grading system after picking up their results last week.

Numerical grades have replaced the previous A*-G grades, with the aim of giving schools more opportunity to get the best out of their pupils.

According to exams regulator Ofqual, a grade 7 is today's equivalent of an A grade, with grades 7, 8 and 9 representing A and A* grades. Pupils achieving a grade 9 are exceeding the old A* grade. Grades 4 and 5 are the equivalent of a grade C pass, with grade 5 classed as a 'strong pass'.

The Hart School in Rugeley is continuing to celebrate exam success for its students. Following on from its pupils' A-level results, several individual students have made notable achievements in their GCSEs.

Success

Stand-out students include Will Langston, who achieved four grades at level 9 as well as an A*; Jayden Dave, who achieved the highest grade 9 in all science subjects; and Edward Jenkins, who attained a level 9 in English Language.

Students at Chase Terrace Technology College also achieved considerable success in their GCSEs, among them Jack Hollingworth, who gained nine level 9 qualifications and has been described by the teaching staff as the 'cream of the cream'.

"I'm particularly proud of those students who have worked through challenging circumstances to achieve their results," headteacher Tim Chamberlin said.

Kingsmead School in Hednesford is celebrating 'fantastic' results, reflecting a 'significant improvement in both attainment and progress'.



Harry Turnbull, Annabel Nicholas, Toby Squire, Amelia Bragg and Thomas Baxter, all aged 16, at Cannock High School



David Benton, in Year 11 at Chase Grammar School, achieved 13 outstanding GCSE results



Lichfield Cathedral School students, teachers and families celebrate Picture: LCS



From left, Megan Preece, Joe Burley, Jack Hollingworth, Jorgia Barrett, Madeleine Chiles, Hannah Elton at Chase Terrace

"There were particularly high performances from science, English Literature and performing arts," head of school Maria Mincher said.

At Wolgarston High School in Penkridge, not only did students achieve top-drawer grades in the core subjects of English, maths and science, but they also continued the trend across a broad range of the

foundation subjects, while at Cardinal Griffin Catholic College in Cannock, 75 per cent of the grades were grade 9 to 4 or equivalent. Overall, 65 per cent achieved five GCSEs with their English and maths at the higher grades. Top performer was Connor Forsyth who achieved one grade 7, two grade 8s and six grade 9s. Some 21 per cent of pupils at Li-

chfield Cathedral School achieved at least one grade 9 and 38 per cent of all grades were 9-7. And students at Chase Grammar School in Cannock are celebrating after more than 50 per cent of entries, across the full range of academic subjects, received either an A*-B - the old grading system is still used for some subjects - or grades 9-6 under the new system.

Banks and old cinema to be sold at auction

A FORMER cinema and three former NatWest branches are going under the hammer at a property auction.

Among the lots being auctioned at Villa Park on Thursday, September 6, is the old Regal cinema in Tamworth Street, Lichfield.

The site already has planning permission for the redevelopment of 3,393 sq ft of retail space, six studio apartments, eight one-bedroom apartments and 24 two-bedroom apartments with 38 parking spaces.

The development site is in the centre of the city and has a guide price of more than £1.8 million.

The former NatWest branch at 65-67 Church Street, Bilston, occupies a prominent position in an established retail location. It has a guide price of £180,000-plus.

The branch at 1 and 2 Three Tuns Parade in Fordhouses, Wolverhampton, is in a parade of retail units and is a two-storey end-of-terrace building with a car park to the rear with 25 spaces. It has a guide price of £165,000 to £185,000.

The other branch is at High Street in Tunstall, Stoke-on-Trent.

Andrew Parker, managing director of SDL Auctions Bigwood, said: "The former bank at Three Tuns Parade has the potential to be split into two units and could be suitable for change of use, subject to planning permission. All three former banks are well located." The auction will feature 132 lots in total.

Family firm on award shortlist

CHESLYN HAY company H2O Hygiene Ltd is a finalist in the Family Business Entrepreneur of the Year category of an awards scheme.

The nomination in the 2018 NatWest Great British Entrepreneur Awards joins the family-run business's growing awards portfolio, following its impressive win back in June as Young Business of the Year.

H2O Hygiene, based in Station Street, will be up against five other businesses hoping to be crowned winners in Birmingham on November 13.

"The whole team at H2O are delighted that we have been shortlisted. We all work together as a great team," MD Tom Davenport said.

Abusive words charge

A 51-YEAR-OLD Cannock man is to appear in court charged with using abusive words to cause distress in Market Place. Colin Morgan of Highland Road will appear before Cannock magistrates on September 5.

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New teams aim to link health and care services

HEALTH and care services in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent are embarking on a new era of integrated working with the aim of ensuring people are better supported to lead healthier and more independent lives.

Integrated Care Teams (ICTs) are being introduced by the Together We're Better partnership of NHS, local government and independent organisations, with each one serving a community of between 30,000 and 70,000 people based around neighbouring GP practices.

Each team will bring together a range of primary, community and mental health services, alongside social care professionals and the voluntary and independent sector, enabling a coordinated approach to improving the health of the community.

Integrated Care Teams will be launched in four early adopter sites - Leek/Biddulph, Lichfield/Burntwood, Longton/Meir and Stafford - before being rolled out across the rest of Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent.

Dr John Oxtoby, joint clinical lead for Together We're Better's enhanced primary and community care programme, said: "By having health and care services that talk to each other more effectively, it breaks down any barriers that exist for the service user and results in Integrated Care Teams that are able to address the specific needs of the communities they serve."

Reminder on poll names deadline

PEOPLE are being reminded that the deadline to deliver completed nomination papers for the vacant city and district council seats in the Stowe ward is 4pm tomorrow (Friday).

Anyone who is interested in becoming either a city or district councillor will need to complete nomination papers for the city and/or district vacancy, which are available from the Returning Officer at District Council House in Frog Lane, Lichfield, or online at www.lichfielddc.gov.uk/upcomingelections.

If the elections are contested, by-elections will take place on Thursday, September 27 from 7am to 10pm.

The places on the councils became vacant after resignations from both the city and district councils in July.

Group's coach trip

THIS Sunday sees Chase Ramblers going on their annual coach trip to the Cotswolds so there is no local walk. A spokesman for the group said they would 'back to normal next week'. New walkers are welcome.

Museum treasures are up for grabs



Shugborough Hall - storage

A MOUNTED leopard's head, a cheese press, an old piano and a stuffed stoat - just some of the quirky curiosities at a Staffordshire museum in need of a new home.

Fifty items in storage at Staffordshire County Museum are up for grabs due to duplication, poor condition, or lack of a strong county connection. Bosses are contacting museums throughout the country to see if they would like any of the items.

If any of the artefacts are unwanted, they could be sold to the public or thrown away. Staffordshire

County Museum is housed in the servants' quarters of Shugborough Hall.

Managed by the county council, it features a restored Victorian kitchen and laundry and brewhouse, as well as permanent galleries and temporary exhibitions.

Councillor Gill Heath, cabinet member for communities, said: "Our museum service regularly reviews its collections, and items that do not meet the service's collections policy are put forward for disposal under the conditions of Arts Council England's Museum Accreditation Standard.

This relates to items that are duplicates, have little or no relevance to the county's heritage, or are in poor condition and which are beyond conservation or restoration. Any money resulting from the sale of an item is put back into the museum service."

Also on the list for disposal is an old outdoor toilet in 'poor condition', a stuffed fox, a thistle boiler, a baker's van, a potter's wheel and a rug loom.

There is also a monkey pole hoist from West Bromwich and a Bedford Horse Box, both on the list as they have no links to Staffordshire.

Litter pickers find more than 200 used needles

A COUNCILLOR said it was a 'complete surprise' when more than 200 used needles were found during a community litter pick.

Councillor Phil Hewitt says the discovery was made on public space close to Tesco in Hawks Green, Cannock.

As well as more than 200 needles, there were up to 30 sharps boxes, which are for the disposal of used needles. The items were found in a black bin bag, and it is thought they had been there for some time.

The county councillor for Hednesford and Rawsley, who leads the litter picks, said that although he was concerned at the discovery he believes it was a 'one-off'. "None of us could believe what we found," he said.

"The needles were in a black bag thrown down the bank by Tesco, they look as though they could have been there for quite a while.

"It's the children, dogs and animals that could be playing down the side there that are the concern.

Police

"I am pleased with the very appropriate and swift response from the waste management staff - after calling them they arrived in 15 minutes. It is difficult to know where the articles came from but the council suspect that they would have been used by drug users.

"We've never come across anything like this before and it was a complete surprise to see them. Usually it's just straightforward litter.

"This did feel like a one-off - Hawks Green is usually a lovely area. We've never found anything like it before and I don't think there's an issue."

Cannock Chase Council had the needles professionally cleared soon after arriving and the police have been informed.

The litter-pick group, which is made up of local volunteers, say they are determined to carry on following the discovery.

Councillor Hewitt added: "With the support of Heath Hayes and Wimblebury Parish Council we regularly get together in Hawks Green to litter pick and we have a terrific turnout from local residents."

Rare chance to take peek at heritage



St Augustine's Church in Rugeley will be taking part in this year's Heritage Open Days

A RARE opportunity to visit a 12th Century parish church in Rugeley not usually open to the public is one of the treats lined up for this year's Heritage Open Days.

Each September, some 40,000 volunteers organise 5,000 open day events at historic buildings

across England to celebrate our history and culture. Many offer rare chances to visit usually closed buildings and spaces or try new experiences and all are free.

St Augustine's Church and The Old Chancel opposite in Station Road will be open for viewing on September 8. Visitors will be able

to join a guided tour around the exterior and interior of the two buildings and view a presentation telling the story of how they developed from the 12th Century.

Other buildings taking part include Moseley Old Hall where there will be re-enactments marking the arrival of Charles II. Visit

NEWS IN BRIEF

The heat is on for charity firewalk

PEOPLE with a burning desire to help charity can do so with a firewalk in Cannock.

Brave soles are needed to tackle the fundraiser in aid of Katharine House Hospice. Organised by Cannock Friends of Katharine House, it is being held on Sunday, October 7 at Cannock Rugby Club's Morgan Ground, in Stafford Road.

Profits will go towards paying for Christmas Day at the hospice, a target the Friends managed to achieve last year. The event will be hosted by UK Firewalk. For more information email cfkfirewalk@hotmail.com or call 07708 662652.

Camera club ready to click into action

RUGELEY & Armitage Camera Club's new season begins on Monday, September 10.

The club was formed in 2009 with six members but has grown into one of the largest photography clubs in the Midlands with about 100 members.

It caters for everyone, from beginners to enthusiasts.

The club meets on Mondays at 7.30pm in The Restaurant at Lea Hall Miners Welfare Centre, in Sandy Lane, Rugeley. For details call Dave Hamner on 07707 997564 or visit rugeleyandarmitagecameraclub.com

Advertising bid is seen by thousands

THOUSANDS of people travelling by road, rail or plane this summer will have seen the Visit Lichfield advertising campaign, organisers say.

In partnership with Lichfield BID, Lichfield District Council launched its new-look tourism brand in June.

As part of the rebrand, adverts have been running over the summer at high-footfall areas around the UK including Birmingham Airport, the NEC, railway stations on the West Coast Mainline, on Cross City trains and on buses that travel through the East and West Midlands.

Charity in appeal for collection volunteers

A CHARITY is looking for volunteers to help with a collection in Cannock.

Shine, which supports more than 11,500 people in England, Wales and Northern Ireland who have spina bifida and/or hydrocephalus, has booked a collection at Asda on September 13.

Local fundraiser Rachel Thomas said: "We are looking for people to give up just a few hours of their time to help us." Call 07464 674933 or email rachel.thomas@shinecharity.org.uk

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IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews



Come on mayor, drop the Ali G look

REMEMBER that remarkably unfunny comedian who went around pretending to be Mayor of Stafford, and took to Twitter making offensive comments about other mayors and genuinely acting like a bit of an idiot?

I only mention it because from reports this week it sounds like he might be operating in Sheffield.

Councillor Magid Magid – presumably his parents were short of ideas when it came to choosing a name – has certainly taken, shall we say, an unconventional approach to the job since he became mayor.

He turns up to civic functions dressed like Ali G, wears the mayoral chains like it's a bit of bling he bought from Cash Converters, and has just returned from Amsterdam where he talked about youth culture. Then there was the mayor-making ceremony, which was accompanied by incidental music from Star Wars, and the Superman theme tune. Oh, and during an interview with a newspaper last week, he appeared to think Queen Victoria was still on the throne.

Really, where do they find these people? You might remember how in this year's local elections Tettenhall's Sohail Khan decided he was going to rap his way onto Wolverhampton Council, causing a bit of controversy with a pistol along the way.

The sad thing about Magid Magid is he probably does have a genuine tale to tell. He arrived in Britain from Somalia as a five-year-old refugee from the civil war, spoke no English, and went on to study at Hull University. He could have been an inspirational role model, but instead he has chosen to turn his office into a laughing stock. There never anything less cool than politicians trying to get down with the kids. Epic fail, I believe the phrase is.

□ □ □

CRAIG Hardwick caught two men on camera while they were dumping an old mattress in his back garden. Far from apologetic, they can be heard on Mr Hardwick's video giving him an earful, telling him he was racist for objecting.

I really hope these two get the book thrown at them, and are either fined several thousand pounds or spend a few months in prison, but I won't be holding my breath.

West Mercia Police has recently set up a website where people can grass up bad drivers by uploading their dash-cam footage, so why don't we have a similar scheme for fly-tippers, fly-posters and litter louts? I know which bothers me the most. And I know which one gets the most attention from the authorities.

Actor's lost his Spacey as a box office draw with flop



How the mighty have fallen, as under-fire Kevin Spacey's latest movie predictably fails



Don't let him be misunderstood – Chief Constable of West Mercia, Anthony Bangham



Jeremy Paxman on University Challenge, surprised at the lack of knowledge about the M1?

Wolver not a winner, but people are great

IN a poll of 55,000 dimwits, Wolverhampton has been voted Britain's second-worst city, after Bradford. All I can add to the debate is that I worked in Wolverhampton for 28 years and met some of the best people I have ever known.

I CAN'T provide the same ringing endorsement for Bradford. My father was born in the city. I recall him once saying: "I come from Bradford, and Bradford is a bloody good place to come from."

HOW are the mighty fallen. Kevin Spacey, accused last year of sexual harassment dating back many years, made a pitiful £99 this week on the opening night of his new movie. This is the same Kevin Spacey who delivered that mammoth dramatic masterclass as Frank Underwood – plotter, killer and president – in the Netflix version of House of Cards. I've just finished watching all 65 hour-long episodes, made between 2013 and 2017 and what an extraordinary tour de force it was. But, justice must be done, no matter how much shining talent it drags off into obscurity.

IN some versions of this blog on Tuesday, the Colosseum in Rome appeared as the Coliseum. Traditionally, 'coliseum' refers to any big outdoor arena while the one in Rome is 'Colosseum'. However, some of the new online dictionaries suggest that 'coliseum' is gradually taking over. So while I admit to a mistake, it was possibly not a colisal one.

YOU have to be pretty damn thuggish these days to get into prison. The courts are so soft that only the nastiest get banged up. They are the ones who use extreme violence, and the most grotesque weapons, to terrify, wound or

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



kill their innocent victims. So how are we supposed to react to the news that some of these killers, maimers, extorters and serial burglars are so scared by the conditions in Birmingham Prison that they are afraid to leave their cells? Here is a liberal dilemma: do we have to feel really, really, genuinely sorry for them or is it okay just to pretend?

A READER sends me his take on the Birmingham Prison scandal: "Prison inspectors were horrified to see cockroaches, vomit, flies, human excrement, rat droppings and drug paraphernalia. It got even worse after they left New Street Station."

MY eye was caught by the tale of the woman who lost a contact lens and assumed it had fallen out. Twenty-eight years later it was discovered by a surgeon removing a cyst from her eye. I bet there can't be many of us contact-lens wearers who do not lose one from time to time, usually for a few minutes. But I had a colleague who realised his rigid gas-permeable lens (the little hard-glass sort) had slipped into the space between eyeball and socket. He thought no more about it. Later, sitting in a bar on holiday, he felt something and assumed it was an insect on his cheek. Turned out to be the missing lens. And when I say "later," I mean 18 months later.

A NEW treatment for enlarged prostate glands takes only five minutes and will soon be available on the NHS. This miracle cure in-

volves aiming jets of steam at the affected area. It goes without saying, in these cash-strapped times, that there will be long queues at the prostate-zapping clinics. Even so, chaps, do not try this at home.

BY some terrible mishap in February of this year, people got the idea that the Chief Constable of West Mercia, Anthony Bangham, was in favour of nicking speeders at just 1mph over the limit. It led to this statement from him: "Comments I made last week have led to a perception that the police are going to be pursuing and prosecuting drivers just one mph over the speed limit. That is not the case and was never advocated." Six months on, incredibly, Mr Bangham has again created the impression that he favours zero-tolerance policy. As Oscar Wilde might have put it: To be misunderstood once may be considered unfortunate. To be misunderstood twice looks like carelessness.

WE don't want people vaping on the buses, agreed? Whatever the health experts may tell us of its alleged benefits, vaping is just plain anti-social. It not only stinks but, worst of all, it shows exactly where the vaper's breath – great, billowing clouds of scented breath – is going. You are suddenly made unpleasantly aware that you are breathing in someone else's expelled air. Revolting.

INTERESTING to see that among the undoubted brilliance of University Challenge (BBC2), the youngsters did not know where the M1 motorway goes and thought the nation which provided sanctuary for the defeated Kaiser in 1918 was the UK. Brilliant at quantum physics, not so good at finding Leeds. Or Kaisers.

TALKING POINT



A waste of time, with service by jobsworths

MY green bin – i.e. the bin that is used for garden refuse – has not been very full of late, with no lawn cuttings, what with the scorched earth it has been instead. Ergo, there have been several collection rounds made by the appropriate binmen where my green bin has been absent.

My logical mind therefore put two and two together to get five and thought after clearing some debris and cutting back stuff that WAS growing in this recent interminable heat – resulting in four bin bags of extra greenery apart from one very full wheelie bin – there would have been no problem in the extra twigs, weeds and otherwise eminently crushable stuff, being chucked in the back of the lorry.

I'm pretty sure that before, when there was something extra put out for the boys in bright yellow, they scooped it up without a complaint. So when I arrived back from a hard day's toil to find the bags still stoically in place on the drive, I was a little disheartened.

Surely collectors could use a little initiative sometimes and think, well, a few extra bags won't matter, and just do the decent thing, even if it meant splitting the bags open and putting the plastic bits back in the wheelie bin, is that really too much to ask? In the meantime, I've since had to wait for the next collection day, two weeks later, and keep rotting vegetation in the garage next to the tumble drier.

I made damn sure that for the next collection ALL the said natural waste was reduced to a pulp in order to fit into my wheelie bin, without a hint of spillage over the rim at the top. It meant some death-defying rampant jumping up and down inside the bin holding onto an overhead eave, but what the heck? It all fit in and as a result, was whisked away.

One of these days I'm going to do myself an injury. I wonder how I'd get on if I did fall out of a wheelie bin? Could I sue the council? After all people trip over paving stones and get away with it.

And another thing, if I want to go down the tip and just drop off sundry items collected from a clear-out in bin bags, I don't see why I should have to sort them out into plastics, metals, cardboard etc., that way madness lies. Half the time it means actually disassembling items. Surely the tip chaps are there to do exactly that, otherwise what exactly are they doing?

Our household is obsessed when it comes to saving the planet. Our normal rubbish bin is barely used as everything possible is recycled. So I think we qualify for some semblance of charity from council operatives who are supposed to be working on our behalf. After all, what do we pay our council tax for?

GRAEME ANDREW

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Vow by mother three years after son killed

"IT'S so hard but I will carry on fighting. And we will get them."

The words of murdered Carl Tindall's mother as she marked the anniversary of her son's death three years ago.

Mrs Tindall is appealing for anyone with information to come forward and help track down his killers.

And a £10,000 reward for any information that leads to a successful prosecution still stands.

With Carl's niece Charlotte at her side, the 74-year-old, from Hixon, Stafford, said: "It will never bring him back but getting justice would help - it would give us that closure. They're out there leading their normal lives. It makes me feel terrible, awful.

"If there is anybody who knows anything at all and could come forward, any little thing would help."

Mr Tindall, a big Everton fan and golfer, worked for property agent Foxtons in London before his death.

Cleared

He had a fractured skull and suffered a brain haemorrhage and died in hospital two days after being found at the side of the road in Stafford.

Following a trial at Stafford Crown Court in July 2016, a jury cleared all four suspects of all charges.

Mrs Tindall added: "I've lost my son. I will never get over it - he was such a lovely lad. He was so popular and did not deserve it. He just did not deserve it. I just plead with the public to speak out and tell us something."

"It's so hard but I will carry on fighting. And we will get them."

Anyone with information about the tragedy should contact Staffordshire Police on 101, quoting incident number 899 of August 22, 2015.



Pat Tindall is re-appealing for help



Carl died after he suffered head injuries

Final hours before Carl died

CARL Tindall is believed to have been attacked at a house in Plant Crescent, Stafford, on August 22, 2015.

The 35-year-old, from Brocton, in Stafford, is then thought to have been taken alive in a car and driven two miles to Cull Avenue, also in Stafford, where he was dumped at the side of the road. Passers-by took him to hospital but he died two days later.

Police charged four people in relation to the property agent's killing but

they were cleared after a trial. Jamie Sleight, 37, of St John's Road, Cannock, at the time, was charged with manslaughter.

Mr Tindall's former girlfriend Sarah Hurmson, her sister Louise Hurmson, both then of Heath Hayes, along with Anthony Boddison, of St Peter's Gardens, Stafford, were charged of assisting an offender.

A jury cleared all four of all the charges.

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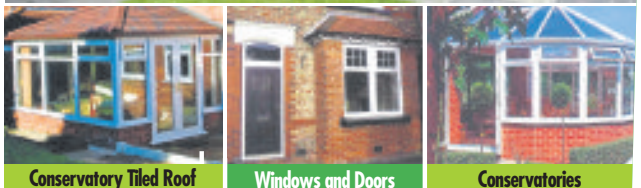
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8 Show loyal fans some kindness

The Chronicle Thursday, August 30, 2018

Our listeners will Paws to lessen grief

WITH today (Thursday) being Grief Awareness Day, Cats Protection would like to let readers know that it offers a support service called Paws to Listen.

For many, losing a cat can be a very traumatic experience and there can be a lack of understanding from family and friends about how deeply the loss can impact on a person. A survey carried out for Cats Protection this month highlighted that 73 per cent

of pet owners feel it can be as difficult and upsetting grieving for a pet as it is grieving for the loss of a person.

Cats Protection understands just how much your cat means to you and what you may be going through if your pet is missing, has had to be rehomed, nearing the end of their life or has recently passed away.

We have a large range of resources, information and support to help you at

this difficult time, including ways to celebrate the life of your cat.

If you're experiencing the loss of a cat you can talk to us on 0800 024 9494 between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday excluding bank holidays. It's a free and confidential service and our volunteer listeners can provide emotional support and practical information.

STUART SHEPPARD
Contact centre manager

Crime surge creates a pressure cooker

IS it any wonder that a few local councillors are concerned about vigilante groups being established (Chronicle, August 9) when it appears schools are broken into, car theft is on an upwards trend, banks are ignoring residents and shutting, leaving communities without a high street bank.

Then there are protests about development that will have far reaching effects on a wide area. When enough people feel they are being ignored what else is there but anarchy? This can never be allowed to be the situation.

With prisons packed to many times their intended capacity, and crime both inside and outside prisons reaching ever higher numbers, it's a pressure cooker.

LES TAYLOR
Cannock

WE expected ticket prices to go up when Wolves hit the Premier League but come on, show some loyalty to the fans, the fans that have gone to matches for years through the good and bad.

My son went to purchase his shirt (as he has for 17 years) - £66 because of the cost of the extras ie Premiership badges. Why not offer that cheaper as a celebration? Drinks prices have increased at the bar! Why? There's even more people attending now.

My husband has purchased his season ticket for 30-odd years. He has always shown his loyalty. I know my husband and son will always give to Wolves, it's in their blood. But come on, give a little something back!

CAROLINE PERRINS
Essington

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

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Threats are actually list of benefits

TOM Robbins's list of EU 'threats' is actually a list of some of the benefits we stand to lose by leaving: free movement of goods (eg medicine), capital and services (including finance), EU agencies such as Europol and EU programmes like Galileo (Letters, August 9).

If he wishes the UK to enjoy the benefits of EU membership, he should have voted Remain.

As for so-called Project Fear, with Brexit failing to live up to its claim that we can have our cake and eat it, we need to be aware of the potential consequences of a 'no deal' scenario.

It's time to see what Brexit is really made of - and right now it isn't looking good.

CLARE SHOLL
Burntwood

Chance to have stories featured in exhibition

THANK you to all the past villagers who attended or contributed in any way to the launch of the Brindley village exhibition at the Museum of Cannock Chase (Chronicle, August 23). Many hadn't met since the 1950s. It was a memorable occasion.

An archive is being compiled to preserve the story of this unique place for future generations.

If you have stories or photographs you would like added, please visit the display where you will find contact details.

LINDA BARRATT
Cannock

Let's see council action

IT has been most noticeable in recent times that the number of homeless people in Stafford and surrounding areas has increased. Accompanying this we have hundreds of bicycles being stolen and drug sales are on the increase.

When are the councils at borough and county level going to take action to stem the tide? We have a right to know.

MALCOLM MILLICHAP
Stafford

Farewell to Queen of Soul

THE death of Aretha Franklin, the Queen of Soul, is a sad loss to the music world. It is quite fitting she passed away on the anniversary of Elvis Presley the King of Rock n Roll.

JOHN LYONS
Cheslyn Hay



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FINAL WHISTLE

Talk is music to the ears of members

Etching Hill WI

MECHANICAL music was the theme for the evening with guest speaker Kathleen Turner and some of her wonderful past and present music boxes.

Kathleen said that with her father's love of combustion engines together with music being a constant in her early years, it was not surprising that she developed an interest in mechanical music boxes. An early retirement in her career led to her starting her collection with the purchase of her first Polyphon metal disc playing box. She also joined the Music Box Society of Great Britain.

Kathleen proceeded to play the various musical boxes she had brought along. From her cylinder model to the more modern barrel organ, including a Serinette which was made for teaching tunes to canaries.

Members enjoyed singing along to Que Sera Sera and The Happy Wanderer.

Keeping with the theme for the evening, the monthly competition was for members to bring along a musical trinket. This was judged by Kathleen who awarded first prize to Christine Stinton.

The speaker at the meeting on September 12 is Bill Gwilt, Lunch of a Lifetime. Meetings take place on the second Wednesday of the month at Etching Hill Village Hall, East Butts Road, Etching Hill from 7.45pm. New members are welcome.

Royal love affair the hot topic at meeting



From left, Barbara Cartwright, Betty Howard-Evans and Jill Gooch enjoy the talk



Speaker Mary Bodfish

Beetle drives up enthusiasm

CANNOCK Soroptimists and friends enjoyed a fun beetle drive at St Mary's Church Hall.

There were groans and cheers, depending on the numbers on the dice as everyone vied to be the first to draw a beetle. The prize for the most artistic beetle

CHAIRMAN Sheila welcomed guest speaker Mary Bodfish whose talk "You Can't Abdicate and Eat It", was a quotation from Wallis, the Duchess of Windsor, making a bitter quip about the abdication of the former King Edward VIII and the less than happy results which came of it.

The talk explored the backgrounds and personalities the King and the American socialite and divorcee Wallis Simpson, and how their love affair caused a unique constitutional

Cannock and District Ladies Probus

crisis in our history. Their story was continued through their married life, looking at their wartime experiences and the glittering but empty life they pursued until their respective deaths.

Meetings are at The Chase Golf and Country Club on the first Thursday of the month at noon. Call 07801 370935 or visit www.probusonline.org

SI Cannock & District

went to Alan Thompson - one of his was resplendent with tie, belt and braces.

The evening was organised by Soroptimist Trish Smith who also arranged a Beatles quiz. She managed

to keep everyone under control and was helped by her husband Barrie who did the important job of collecting the fish and chip supper. Joint winners were Judith Carder and Mike Mellor. Trish announced that £180 was raised for the Phoenix Project at St Giles Hospice.

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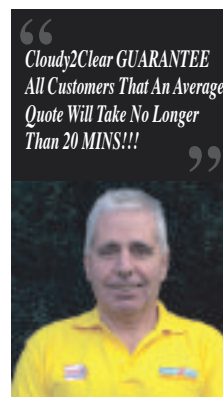
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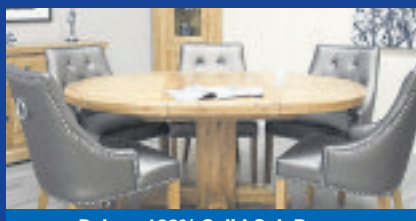
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Plans for 520 homes by M6 Toll unveiled

UP to 520 homes and an industrial estate the size of 15 football pitches could be built in the countryside close to the M6 Toll.

Under plans to build up to 520 homes on land off Cricket Lane and London Road in Lichfield, developers also want to introduce an area of up to 10.73 hectares of 'employment floorspace'.

The scheme would include 'green infrastructure' such as footpaths, cycleways, open spaces and play areas.

The application would see the development built on land formerly in the green belt, about five minutes' drive north of the M6 Toll at Shenstone.

Persimmon West Midlands and St Modwen are behind the project, which was submitted to Lichfield District Council last week. About 35 per cent of the properties on the estate would be built to be delivered as affordable homes.

A statement on behalf of the developers said: "The proposed development will create housing choice, provide an employment area and new amenity spaces for the existing and new com-

By Tom Oakley

munity whilst improving public access across the site and to the wider pedestrian network.

"The masterplan is founded on the best practice in urban design, community integration and sustainable development, with strong links to the wider area. It aims to create a development for the 21st century."

Public consultation events have been held with residents living nearby.

Concerns raised by residents include traffic concerns and the need for calming measures at the junction of Cricket Road and London Road.

The project as a whole is equivalent to the size of 52 professional football pitches.

Paul's photograph soars to first place



Sergeant Paul Oldfield's winning photograph of two Typhoons as they headed to RAF Shawbury on a cloudy day

THIS stunning photograph flew to first place as part of an RAF competition. Thousands took part to celebrate the skill and technical work of professionals and amateurs.

Sergeant Paul Oldfield from RAF Cosford came out on top with first place in the Current RAF Equipment category and third place in The Judge's Choice with his photo.

He captured the two Typhoons as they headed to RAF Shawbury on a cloudy day when they were based there for this year's Cosford Air Show.

Paul's image has also been entered into the best nine Public Relations images selected by the judges. They will go forward to an online general public vote with the favourite selected on September 20 as RAF Image of the Year.

Traditionally, there has always been an amateur category but this year it was open to the public, service dependants, families and cadets. The theme was based around RAF100 as the air force is marking 100 years since its formation.

Go to www.raf.mod.uk/photo-of-the-year/2018

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Heroine in farm blaze given bravery award



Chief fire officer Becci Bryant, left, awards Yasmine Saunders her commendation from Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service

A WOMAN who rescued dozens of horses from a huge countryside blaze has been recognised for her bravery.

Yasmine Saunders was awarded a commendation by Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service following her heroism in the early morning incident in May when a large fire broke out in the caravan storage area of a farm in Anslow near Burton-on-Trent.

It involved a number of caravans and spread to a barn and several stables. The 22-year-old, a rider who

works at the stables, was sleeping in a nearby caravan. She ran to the stables and released 12 horses into the adjoining field before going back to the burning building to rescue two stallions.

She then turned her attention to a second barn which housed a further 24 horses and was also showing signs of fire. Yasmine released the animals, allowing them to escape into a field.

She said: "Looking back, it was a very dangerous situation but I did what came naturally. It's very lucky that they all got out safely and that the firefighters acted so quickly."



The scene of the farm blaze

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A FOOTBALL club is appealing for family descendants as they trace the story of a mysterious medal.

Darlaston Town 1874 FC wants to hear from the Corfield or Whistance family to track down the origins of a family heirloom.

Vice-chairman Garry Hale was contacted by Verena Burrows from Stockport, granddaughter of William Corfield, who was originally from Brownhills.

Following William's death in 1948, Verena was given a box of his items where she found what she thought was a coin. After having the item cleaned she realised it was actually a football medal that was presented to her grandfather in 1893 with the inscription 'Darlaston Football Academy'.

Anyone with information about the Corfield or Whistance families or information regarding the medal can email chambers568@btinternet.com or call 07976 752698.



William Corfield, possibly in the 1930s, and inset the medal

New scanners 'will cut waiting times'

PATIENTS at Walsall Manor Hospital will be treated using state-of-the-art MRI scanners after the completion of a major project.

Work to house two new scanners started in January, replacing the hospital's previous machine, which was more than 16 years old.

The project has now been completed, and from September 10, patients will be able to use the new facilities.

The equipment is used to diagnose and identify a range of conditions from back and knee injuries to brain problems, cancer, multiple sclerosis and arthritis.

The health trust has entered into a 15-year contract with the In-Health Group, which has seen the replacement of the old scanner and



Walsall Manor Hospital - contract

installation of a second. Bosses say the investment will also enable the trust to make better use of its financial resources.

Russell Caldicott, the trust's lead

executive director for the MRI project, said: "We are delighted this major project is now nearing completion and that from September 10 our scanner provision will be doubled."

"This means borough patients won't have to wait as long for a scan and the trust can increase the number of patients it sees, which is so important for those people anxiously awaiting investigations and diagnoses."

The Siemens Aera scanners are said to provide exceptional image quality and are more suitable for patients who suffer from claustrophobia than standard scanners. They are also suitable for bariatric weight loss surgery patients - a service that has previously been unavailable in Walsall.

The latest generation scanners require only 24 hours' maintenance per year as opposed to the usual 36 hours.

Ale, cider and pies at festival

FANS of real ale, traditional cider, pork pies and live music will be in for a treat at this year's Autumn Beer Festival run by Lichfield Arts at the city's Guildhall.

Tickets for the event, which will be held on September 14 and 15, are £2 before 6pm and £3 afterwards.

There will be a choice of more than 30 real ales and ciders from local and regional breweries, as well as the popular pork pies, and a full range of soft drinks.

The full beer list will be available on the Lichfield Arts website, closer to the festival dates.

For further information, and to book tickets, phone 01543 262223, call into the Lichfield Arts box office in Donegal House, Bore Street, or visit www.lichfieldarts.org.uk

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Free summer club is a huge hit with families



The aim of the project has been to enable all families, whatever their situation, to go and join in the summer fun

CHILDREN and their families have been enjoying a summer club during the holidays.

Rugeley Community Centre's Active-ate summer project has invited families of primary age children to sign up.

They have been claiming a free breakfast and lunch each day, together with a wide variety of sport and art activities over the last few weeks. For

the past eight months, Rugeley Community Church, which manages the community centre, has been working with around 20 partners – including Staffordshire County Council, South Staffordshire College, Tesco and Staffordshire Wildlife Trust – to develop the free summer holiday club for families in the town.

The aim of the project has been to enable all families, whatever their situation, to go and join in the summer fun.

They have been making new friends, enjoying a raft of activities from sport to craft – and being fed as well.

The whole of the project has been supported by a large team of volunteers from the local community.

These 'super heroes' range from 15-year-olds to 'silver surfers'.

Organisers say that the project would not have worked without the daily commitment of these 'troopers'.

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The Chronicle Thursday, August 30, 2018

A CANNOCK company is looking for stories of women whose contribution to the First World War deserves to be remembered.

SureStore will celebrate the most inspiring on a banner hung from its self-storage facility at Gallan Park, Watling Street.

Part of The Royal British Legion's 'Thank You' campaign to commemorate the centenary of the First World War, self-storage managers all over the country are highlighting women's involvement in the war. The campaign will last 100 days.

SureStore director Paul Whittaker said: "Alongside the people of Cannock we are delighted to throw ourselves behind this campaign."

"We are even hosting a Great War exhibition at our brand new facility full of pictures, paintings and collages created by the town's children."

All nominations should be sent to WomenWeThank@ssauk.com



An assembly line worker in a munitions factory during the First World War Picture: Hulton-Deutsch Collection

Grants offer to keep Chase in great shape

A FUND supporting projects which show a positive benefit for the Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is now open for applications.

The Cannock Chase AONB Development Fund supports schemes that demonstrate a strong level of support for the beauty spot and its environment, as well as the social and economic needs of the local community.

Applications can be made for grants up to £5,000 – and the organisers say no project is too small.

Usually, match funding of 25 to 50 per cent will be needed but this can be from a variety of sources including 'in kind' contributions such as volunteer time or the loan of premises or equipment. To qualify, projects must con-



Projects will boost Cannock Chase

serve or enhance the natural beauty of the AONB, be sustainable, involve local communities and help in the delivery of the AONB management plan. The deadline for applications is Sep-

tember 30. Any project granted funds must be completed before the end of March 2019.

Frances Beatty, chair of the AONB joint committee, said: "We have £20,000 available to get local people thinking about how they can help keep the landscape in great shape."

"We hope to receive plenty of applications and are looking forward to helping projects that will boost Cannock Chase AONB."

"Previous years' successful bids have included wildlife monitoring equipment for Cannock Chase Visitor Centre, a five-yearly bird survey, photography training for AONB volunteers, and a project to help people living with mental illness access a local farm and its surroundings." Visit cannockchase@staffordshire.gov.uk

Vouchers for fibre connection

STAFFORDSHIRE firms can improve efficiency through full fibre broadband connection using vouchers worth up to £3,000.

The government-run £67 million Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme is available to all small and medium sized businesses and can be for either one company or a group on a shared network.

Groups of residents can also apply for vouchers of up to £500 where a business is also included.

Businesses or group applicants need to find a supplier to start the process.

There are more than 100 registered suppliers in Staffordshire and the chosen supplier will register for the voucher. The supplier will then make the necessary connection to the premise or premises.



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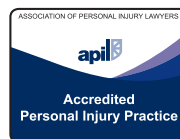


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BY Phone – 01543 465327, 01902 317878

Announcements must be supplied by 12noon on Monday for the same weeks publication.

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Confronting demons in a one-man show



Mark Farrelly takes on the role of the playwright in *The Silence of Snow: The Life of Patrick Hamilton*

A ONE-MAN show about playwright Patrick Hamilton is coming to the Lichfield Garrick.

Actor Mark Farrelly will be returning to the theatre for the role on September 21 when he will star in *The Silence of Snow: The Life of Patrick Hamilton*. It tells the story of the life of one of the great English writers of the inter-war years who was a dazzling success while still in his 20s, producing the hit plays *Rope* and *Gaslight*, and classic novels including *Twenty Thousand Streets Under The Sky*, *Hang-over Square* and *The Slaves of Solitude*.

But he was also an alcoholic whose wit became increasingly mordant as his inner and outer worlds collapsed.

The Silence of Snow: The Life of Patrick Hamilton is playing in the Studio Theatre starting at 7.45pm as part of the Garrick Introducing series.

The performance will be followed by a post-show discussion with Mark Farrelly.

Tickets are £17.50 and can be booked at www.lichfield-garrick.com or by calling the box office on 01543 412121.

Deadline is looming to claim free childcare

STAFFORDSHIRE parents are being urged to claim childcare worth up to £5,000 a year before the deadline passes.

The next places for 30 hours a week funded childcare are available across the county from September 1 for children who celebrate their third birthday between April 1 and August 31, 2018.

But to claim the funding, parents must register at www.childcarechoices.gov.uk by tomorrow (Friday) or wait until the new year.

Once parents have a registration code from the website, they should contact their preferred childcare provider as soon as possible to make the necessary arrangements.

To be eligible for 30 hours' funded childcare, both parents, or the parent in a single-parent family, must earn the equivalent of at least 16 hours a week at the national minimum wage, or living wage.

Places are also available for children who are already three or four years old, but haven't yet been registered.

The 30 hours scheme was

rolled out nationally after being trialled in Staffordshire in 2016-17.

Latest figures show that the families of 7,625 children took up the 30 hours offer in the county in the last year, equating to more than a quarter of a million hours of childcare a year.

Councillor Mark Sutton, Staffordshire County Council's cabinet member for children and young people, said: "This is a great deal for parents and it can make a huge difference to a family. This funded childcare can boost their work life balance, or keep some money in their pocket, or enable them to work more hours."

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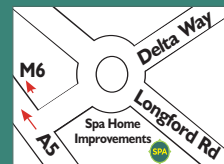
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16 Slim for Life with Slimming World!

The Chronicle Thursday, August 30, 2018

Commercial feature

Want to lose weight but unsure how it will work for you? Here, two successful Cannock slimmers share their stories.

Lyndsey has rediscovered her love of life since losing almost 7st. She says:

"I have always been 'overweight', even from a very young age. I have always been an emotional eater; if I'm happy I eat, if I'm sad I eat.

"The weight didn't creep on as such, it's just always been there. However, this just got worse and worse with having my three children.

"I would lose a bit, but always put that and more back on. This yo-yo weight pattern happened between all three children.

"I was desperately unhappy with my weight, yet I continued to console myself with food, only making the problem worse.

Decided

"I got to the stage where I was so uncomfortable in social situations that I stopped going out anywhere. If I did manage to go out, it wasn't for long, as I was just so unhappy.

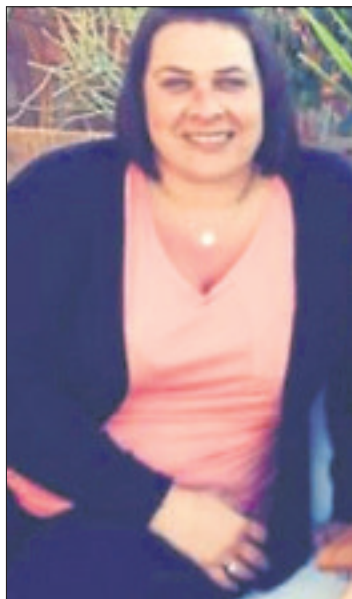
"This got me to the point where I decided enough was enough. I wasn't living my life, I was just existing, and it wasn't fair on my family.

"I needed to sort myself out once and for all. I spoke to my best friend who had recently joined Slimming World and decided to go along.

"I joined a group and have never felt such support ever.

"There is always a great group session planned with exciting raffle prizes and games that everyone enjoys.

"The other group members are just as supportive, and many I now class as good friends. It is a really wonderful group and I



BEFORE: Lyndsey was desperately unhappy

look forward to group nights every week. I am now just short of losing seven stone and feel amazing for it.

"All this was achieved in just ten short months! I'm really proud of myself and how I've turned myself around, and so are my family and friends.

"I can't say it's been easy, some weeks I've really struggled and battled my old food demons, but I feel more in control than I've ever felt in my life!"



AFTER: Lyndsey looks forward to group nights

Fay has maintained her target for over a year, since losing 4st 6lb, and is now able to attend group free for life. She says:

"Having had a weight problem for many years, I decided that enough was enough, and that I was going to do something about it before my 'big' birthday. Although I was feeling apprehensive when I first walked through the door, I was immediately made to feel welcome.

"I found the plan easy to follow and soon adapted my family's favourite meals to the



BEFORE: Faye had a weight problem for years

Slimming World way. I was able to enjoy spaghetti bolognese, chilli, lasagne and steak & chips and cola chicken is a firm favourite with all. I reached my target weight twelve months after starting the plan and generally lost weight every week, with the odd exception due to holiday, birthdays and Christmas.

"Even then, I did not put on nearly as much weight as I usually would have done, because I was being aware of healthier choices.

"I have been at my target weight now for over



AFTER: Faye found the plan easy to follow

twelve months and intend to stay that way. I still attend the group each week, as talking to other members enables us to share ideas, support and encourage each other and keep motivated and on track."

If you'd like more information about Slimming World why not contact one of our team of consultants, or come along to one of our warm, friendly, supportive groups listed below. You can be sure of a warm welcome!



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Zoe Thacker: 07812 447878

Rugeley

Rugeley Rose Theatre
Taylors Lane, Rugeley
5.30pm & 7.30pm
Ring Rachel: 07807 785600

Cannock

St Mary's Club & Community Centre
2 Hallcourt Lane (off Walsall Road or Hunter Street), Cannock, WS11 0HE
5.30pm & 7.30pm
Ring Gill: 07958 000554

Penkridge

Haling Dene Centre, Penkridge
5.30pm & 7.30pm
Ring Claire: 07540 230230

TUESDAY

Cannock

Avon Business & Leisure Centre, Jack Holsten Suite, Avon Road, Cannock (next to Asda)
9am & 11am
Morning Group

Ring Rose: 07837088159

Huntington

Create Church Community Hub, Huntington, WS12 4PD (behind the Co-op)
5.30pm & 7.30pm
Ring Rose: 07837 088159

Penkridge

Peace Memorial Hall, Pinfold Lane, Penkridge
7.30pm
Ring Claire: 07540 230320

Hednesford

St Josephs Primary School
Hilltop, Hednesford
5.30pm & 7.30pm

WEDNESDAY

Cannock

St Mary's Club & Community Centre, 2 Hallcourt Lane (off Walsall Road or Hunter Street), Cannock, WS11 0HE
5.30pm
Ring Gill: 07958 000554

Hednesford

Pye Green Community Centre
Bradbury Lane, Pye Green
9.00am & 11.00am
Morning Groups
Ring Rose: 07837 088159

Chadsmoor

Bethany Baptist Church, Cannock Road, Chadsmoor
7.30pm
Ring Fina: 07530 165049

THURSDAY

Cannock

Avon Business & Leisure Centre
The Chase Suite Avon Road, Cannock (next to Asda)
5pm & 7pm
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Hednesford

Aquarius Ballroom, Victoria Street, Hednesford, Cannock
3.30 & 5.30pm & 7.30pm
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Rugeley

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Morning Groups
Ring Rachel: 07807 785600

FRIDAY

Hednesford

Aquarius Ballroom
Victoria Street, Hednesford
9.30am ***Morning Group***
Ring Gill: 07958 000554

SATURDAY

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Playgroup move offers new opportunities

Commercial feature

We are very excited to announce Landywood Playgroup situated within Great Wyrley Community Centre is moving and relaunching as Landywood Pre-school, located at Landywood Primary School, from September 2018.

This partnership will be an amazing opportunity for all the children within the Great Wyrley, Cheslyn Hay and Essington area.

Parents will find accessing childcare easier due to Landywood Primary School now offering childcare/education from the age of two, meaning families have everything they wish for on the one site.

This will enable children to familiarise themselves with a school's environment, making the transition to primary school a less daunting challenge.

Learn

The exciting curriculum ensures all children are engaged and have the best possible start in school life.

Within the pre-school, the underlying aim is for children to have fun, while learning new skills at the same time.

"Why send my two year old to pre-school?" is a question you may be asking.

Children who attend learn how to interact with others in a social, harmonious manner, allowing friendships to blossom, giving them skills for life.

All staff within the setting are qualified in childcare, first aid and safeguarding, providing a very friendly child-centred environment. Tours are positively encouraged. For more information please call on 07547 510782.

Once children have their third birthday, Landywood's Nursery offers children a flexible approach, building on the skills learnt in the pre-school.

Landywood offers government funded 15



The exciting curriculum ensures all children are engaged and have the best possible start in school life

and 30-hour places. Parents can also purchase extra hours, on top of the funded hours, to help with work and other commitments.

Landywood's Nursery operates within an 'integrated approach', meaning the children work alongside the school's Reception children. This enables social skills to blossom while ensuring the activities offered to the children help develop them academically. In the

year children have their fifth birthday, they move into Landywood's Reception class.

Having already been within the integrated provision, the progress children make is rapid as staff know exactly where every child is and knows where to pitch the next stage in their learning journey.

During the school's Ofsted inspection in March 2017, Ofsted found: "Children in the early

years are well supported to develop the range of skills and knowledge needed in Year 1.

"The learning environment is bright and stimulating and children are taught well."

The inspectors also found that 'children benefit from a pleasant and well-organised learning environment. There are well-established routines. Children interact well with adults and with each other. This is because



The underlying aim is for children to have fun, while learning new skills

they have ample opportunities to develop their social skills'.

Tours of Landywood's Early Years provision, both Nursery and Reception, are positively encouraged to enable parents to see for themselves the effectiveness of the school's integrated Early Years approach.

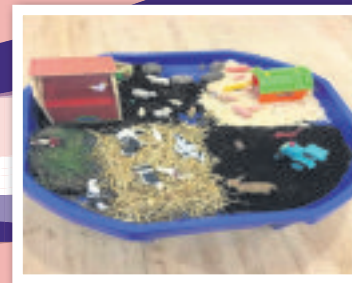
Please telephone 01922 270077 to organise a tour.



Landywood Preschool

"Staff are well qualified and supported well to raise their knowledge and skills through targeted training. As a consequence, the quality of teaching is consistently good".

Ofsted 2016



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20 Families enjoy treat of a theme park day out

COMMUNITY spirit was truly at its best when a group of individuals and organisations put their heads together to give vulnerable women and children a day out.

A double-deck National Express bus took 70 women and children supported by The Haven in Wolverhampton to Drayton Manor Park on a sunny Saturday in August – driven by local radio DJ Dicky Dodd. They also had a stop-off at McDonald's in Wolverhampton where meals were donated for all on board the bus.

The driving force behind the idea to treat the families was Scott Lyons from Tata Steel, Matt Jukes from National Express and Dicky from Signal 107. Scott said: "The school holidays are even harder for the mothers and children, with some suffering financial difficulties and Tata Steel was extremely happy to support them."

Tax payers pick up £44,000 bill to pay for council Jag

THOUSANDS of pounds of public money is being spent on luxury cars for mayors and council officials.

A Freedom of Information request by the TaxPayers' Alliance has revealed big spending on posh Jaguars for mayors and other council officials in Staffordshire and the Black Country. The Alliance has called it 'excessive' when most councils are already strapped for cash, and is calling for

mayors to use their own vehicles or public transport to attend events.

But council chiefs have hit back, saying the role of mayor is a 'prestigious' and 'historic' one which warrants its own car.

They also say they are supporting a local company and jobs by buying or leasing only Jaguars.

JLR has a factory on the i54 site and is building a new showroom in Wolverhampton.

Figures show that Staffordshire

County Council spent £44,000 on the running of a Jaguar XJL.

The council's leader Councillor Philip Atkins said: "The chairman of the county council represents Staffordshire at a local and national level, and needs to carry out their civic duties effectively."

"The current chairman's vehicle is leased rather than bought as it is more cost effective in terms of overall purchase cost and includes routine maintenance."

Ticket sales rise in Light House battle

THE campaign to save the Light House cinema in Wolverhampton is going from strength to strength says its chief executive Kelly Jeffs, with ticket sales up by 26 per cent.

But the venue is still on the lookout for sponsors to help plug a funding gap. Visitors numbers rose by more than a quarter in July compared with the same month last year.

Ms Jeffs said the increase was partly due to the 'Mamma Mia' effect as the successful blockbuster had boosted all cinemas throughout the country.

But she said it also proved that people in the city value the cinema and want to ensure it stays open. "The summer is usually a quiet time for cinemas but this is bucking the trend. We're not flogging a dead horse," she added.

"We know we are offering what people want and I'm seeing new faces every day. We have never offered so much."



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Jean Martyn congratulates her father Bert Waterson, 100

Bert, 100, reflects on the agony of his war

SHOT and left for dead in the desert 2,500 miles from home, the odds of Bert Waterson making it out of his 20s were slim – never mind celebrating his 100th birthday.

But that is just what the Second World War veteran from Great Wyrley did when he marked his milestone birthday with family including his daughter, Britain's Got Talent star keyboardist Jean Martyn.

Surrounded by his loved ones with a card from the Queen and a huge birthday cake, Bert still bears the scar of his brush with death in 1942.

Jean, who made it to the final of BGT in 2011, said he has shared the story with family who are incredibly proud of him.

Shortly after marrying Phyllis Violet Green, known as 'Vi', on August 17, 1940 at Mount Zion Methodist Church in Brownhills, Bert was sent to Ankara, Turkey, the next day – his 22nd birthday. And he wasn't to return to his new wife until the war's conclusion in 1945.

After a short time in Ankara, Bert was sent to Cairo in Egypt as a Sergeant for the Royal Electrical Mechanical Engineers (REME) regiment as the battle for control of the Middle East raged in The Desert War.

Injured

Fighting alongside comrades in the 8th Army division Bert was shot in the desert in 1942. He was sent to a hospital in Israel where he was saved by a South African doctor.

He was so badly injured that the long journey to the UK was too arduous and he was sent back to Ankara to convalesce, before returning home after the war.

Coming home to his wife, Bert and Vi took over a post office in Brownhills West after Vi's brother decided to sell it. They spent 22 years working there before selling it on and Bert went on to work for Walsall Council in the housing department before his retirement.

The couple celebrated their platinum wedding anniversary after 70 years of marriage in 2010 before Vi's death in 2011 aged 93.

Now, the veteran has reached 100 and was surrounded by his loved ones to celebrate his life.

He is the oldest surviving member of his family and was joined in the celebrations by his only child Jean and other family including his four younger siblings. His 10 older siblings have



Bert at the age of 21



Bert recovering in Ankara



With his card from the Queen

all died. One of his sisters, Marion, 96, travelled to see him from Lincolnshire.

Bert also has a grandson, 37-year-old Scott Parker-Copestick, who was at the party along with Bert's four great-grandchildren. Jean said: "This generation of people were incredible and my dad's no different."

"It's horrible to think of the pain and suffering so many people went through. The injury my dad suffered seemed terrible. He still has a scar today to prove it."

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MP laughs off claims of 'guns on tractors'

GAVIN Williamson has denied claims he suggested putting guns on tractors as he insisted he was focused on fighting for extra funding for the military.

The Defence Secretary hit back over criticism that he had 'lost the plot' and was plunging Britain's armed forces into crisis through a series of 'crackpot schemes' to solve an equipment shortfall.

An unnamed source was quoted in The Sun as saying that the South Staffordshire MP wanted to mount weapons on tractors, disguise mobile missile systems as Coca-Cola lorries, and transform old commercial ferries into beach assault craft.

Mr Williamson laughed off the claims and said containerised missile systems were already a 'military reality', while his allies insisted he was doing 'a fantastic job' in battling for more cash for the armed forces.

Available

The Defence Secretary told the Chronicle: "We have never considered putting guns on tractors. We are looking at how we invest in new shipping and new concepts."

"We already have containerised missile systems, they are available around the globe. It is something that is used by all military."

"We just launched the new Land Ceptor missiles, which is a containerised missile system, which means you can drive it around the country."

"These are things, which are not fanciful, they are actually a military reality."

Mr Williamson has already successfully landed an extra £800 million funding boost from the Treasury, but he believes the department needs £2 billion more a year just to keep the armed forces at their present size and avoid the need for damaging cuts.

"The thing I have always been completely committed to is getting the very best for our armed forces," he added.

Safety lessons for riders



Reducing the risks – the road safety workshop is open to 15 to 21-year-olds from throughout Staffordshire

YOUNG motorcyclists in Staffordshire are being urged to attend the latest in a series of events as part of a campaign to promote safer riding on the county's roads.

Anyone attending will be offered a £50 voucher off the cost of their Compulsory Basic Training (CBT) course which allows them to ride on the roads. The Pre-CBT workshop takes place at Uttoxeter fire station

on Thursday, September 6, from 6.30pm to 9.30pm. It is open to 15 to 21-year-olds from throughout Staffordshire.

Places are limited but can be booked by emailing bikers@staffordshire.gov.uk or by calling Kevin Wilcox on 07855 336922.

The campaign is being co-ordinated by the Staffordshire Safer Roads Partnership.

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Jed heads for a hit with Bodyguard



Keeley Hawes and Richard Madden star in *Bodyguard*, written by Cannock's Jed Mercurio

NEW BBC drama *Bodyguard* has scored the highest overnight audience for a drama launch this year by more than one million viewers.

The new six-part series starring Keeley Hawes and Richard Madden debuted on Sunday at 9pm to an average overnight rating of 6.7 million and an audience share of 35 per cent, the BBC said.

The programme, which has been penned by Can-

nock-born Line of Duty writer Jed Mercurio, peaked with 6.9 million viewers.

Viewers were highly entertained by the political thriller's first episode, with some taking to Twitter to say they were gripped and could not wait for the second episode on Monday. It returns on Sunday.

"Opening twenty minutes most tense drama this year," one viewer tweeted.

Caravan added to poultry farm

PLANS to install a caravan at a chicken farm have been given the go-ahead.

Councillors were told that staff needed to be on site at all times in the interest of the animals' welfare.

The two-bedroom mobile home is needed so a manager can stay overnight at Abbey Farms, Penkridge.

At a meeting of South Staffordshire District Council's planning committee, agent Ian Pick said the caravan was needed for the welfare of the farm's

482,000 chickens. He said: "This proposal is for a caravan for a farm manager to live on site.

"It's a large, intensive, live stock unit. It's a complex automated site and is struggling in terms of supervision of systems and essential animal welfare."

Councillor Isabel Ford backed the proposals, saying: "I have nothing against it at all.

"It's a large operation, and there's a manager on site. I cannot understand why accommodation wasn't in the original." The planning committee voted to approve the application.

Leadership praised after 'peer team challenge'

EXPERTS have praised the political and management leadership of South Staffordshire Council in a report.

The authority is 'very impressive' and is recognised as 'an effective and well-functioning council that cares for its people'.

Earlier this year, the council invited the Local Government Association (LGA) to carry out a corporate peer challenge – a voluntary assessment to check how it is performing and test its future plans.

A small team of senior representatives from the LGA and other local authorities visited the Codsall-based offices in June and, over the course of three days, spoke to more than 100 people including council staff, elected members and external partner organisations and stakeholders.

The feedback report from the LGA also highlights its finances are in a 'sound position' with the council being 'in a strong position to meet future challenges'.

Councillor Brian Edwards, leader of South Staffordshire Council, said: "Feedback from the corporate peer challenge has been exceptional, and I am very proud to be leader of a council with a wonderful team doing such a good job.

"Saving money, making money, doing things differently – none of this is new for us. It's fair to say, for this council, the impact of the austerity measures were more of a catalyst to speed up our processes for innovation."

Chief executive Dave Heywood said: "This report recognises that South Staffordshire is a strong, well-run council with great staff.

"At a time of ongoing change and uncertainty across the public sector, these findings show that continued progress is being made across the council and that our approach is making a real difference to the wellbeing of our residents."

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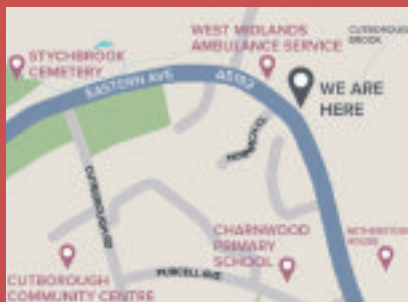
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Funding on offer to pay for safety initiatives

COMMUNITY groups in Staffordshire can now apply for funding to turn ideas that will make their area safer into reality.

Police and Crime Commissioner Matthew Ellis is making £400,000 available via his People Power Fund (PPF) and the Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA). Hundreds of ideas have been funded in recent years.

Among them, grants between £100 and £3,000 have come from the People Power Fund and £3,000 and £15,000 from the POCA.

Applicants have until September 14 to apply.

The PPF is supporting locally driven community safety activities throughout Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent.

These could include providing long-term positive activities for young people to help reduce anti-social behaviour, and mentoring programmes for targeted local groups through to activities that reassure and improve the quality of life for local people in local areas.

The POCA grants see money and assets confiscated from criminal seizures funding projects to make

By Tom Oakley

communities safer. Mr Ellis said: "The People Power Fund helps to make local communities with ideas to make them safer.

"It is really easy to apply for and is about preventing problems like anti-social behaviour. It could be better security or anything that is likely to successfully deter wrong-doing and community nuisance.

People Power applications need to be sponsored by the group's neighbourhood police officer or PCSO and will initially be assessed by the local Community Safety Partnership.

The People Power Fund is one part of the Commissioner's community funding for 2018-19.

Holiday fun from
time of Romans



Diane Sanders, left, and Rebecca Lillidge get into the Roman mood at the Museum of Cannock Chase

THERE was historical mayhem at the Museum of Cannock Chase as visitors stepped back in time during the summer holidays. Families enjoyed a variety of arts and crafts workshops including making jesters' and ladies' hats dating back to the era of knights and castles.

Visitors also became the knights by getting the chance to design their own shield before enjoying an indoor Robin Hood quiz. Children joined in on an activity called 'Who's Poo are you?' where they opened fake fossilised poo to work out the last meal the person ate

It was part of a series of time travelling events held at the museum in Valley Road, Hednesford, over the holidays.

● The next comedy night at the Museum of Cannock Chase is on September 26. Master of ceremonies is Frankie People with stand-up performances from Ben Briggs and Hannah Silvester. Doors open at 7.30pm. Tickets are £9 available by calling 01543 877666.

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Scouts salute 'new' HQ – thanks to Goodyear

MEMBERS of a Scout group will be prepared for anything after their headquarters were given a revamp thanks to former Goodyear workers.

Beavers, Cubs and Scouts held a celebration to mark the completion of the work at the 1st Fordhouses base, off Stafford Road, Wolverhampton.

Just under £14,000, donated by trustees of the 5/344 Transport and General Workers Union Benevolent Fund, has been spent installing central heating, refurbishing the roof and renovating the kitchen area.

Dennis O'Rourke, who worked at the tyre plant for 29 years, cut the ribbon on the new-look scout hut, which is used by around 70 children and teenagers.

Struggled

Scout group leader Donna Hubbard, who has been with 1st Fordhouses for 15 years, described the donation as 'absolutely amazing'.

"We could never have afforded this without the donation, we would have struggled on with what we had," she said. "We had fan heaters which were expensive and had to boil a kettle to get hot water."

"Having central heating and the other work done will make such a big difference and will mean we don't have to sit in our coats in the winter because it's so cold."

Chairman of the trustees Cyril Barrett said: "This has been a lovely project to support because it's such an important part of the community."

Mr O'Rourke said: "I'm totally delighted. I was a Scout myself so it's nice to be able to support them."



Dennis O' Rourke opens the scout hut with group scout leader Donna Hubbard

Link-up is just the ticket

AN arts centre in Wolverhampton has officially announced its partnership with a city record shop.

Stay Loose Records is now an official box office for Newhampton Arts Centre, selling tickets for gigs hosted by the cultural hub.

The partnership aims to boost arts, music and theatre across the city and get the name of both venues out to creatives in The Black Country.

Spokesman for NAC Stacey Cross said: "We are very excited about teaming up with Stay Loose Records, the shop is a highly regarded asset to Wolverhampton and it is important for the city's creative industries to work together."

Stay Loose Records, based on Farmers Fold, sells both new and pre-loved vinyl records across all music genres specialising in soul, funk and reggae.

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Saturday 8th	York City	£23.00
Tuesday 11th	Country Tour & Pub Lunch	£29.00
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WAR HORSE

at the National Theatre

Departing Saturday 24 Nov

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Fly-tipper sentenced after falling for sting

A MAN has been given a suspended prison sentence for fly-tipping after council officers carried out 'test purchases'.

Members of the public had paid him to remove waste from their properties which was later discovered fly-tipped at various locations in the Lichfield district, North Warwickshire and the Tamworth borough.

As part of an investigation, officers from Lichfield District Council filmed Roeg Wadham removing rubbish which was later found dumped nearby.

Wadham, aged 29, from Clifton Campville near Tamworth, pleaded guilty to five charges of fly-tipping across three local authority areas when he appeared at Nuneaton Magistrates Court last month.

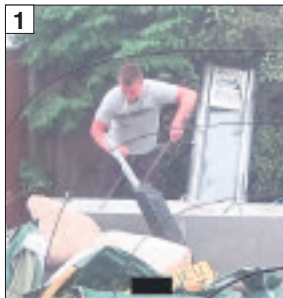
Penalty

The court heard that his actions were pre-determined and organised and, due to the significant amount of waste left in such rural locations, passed the custody threshold, and sentencing was adjourned.

Last week, Wadham was handed a 50-week jail term, suspended for 12 months on the basis that Wadham fully co-operates with the Probation Service and fulfils the requirements of a community order.

The court also imposed a criminal behaviour order prohibiting Wadham from engaging in waste disposal activities for three years and a financial penalty of £2,684 reflecting partial clean-up and legal costs and a victim surcharge of £115 – a total of £2,799.

Councillor Ashley Yeates, cabinet member for regulatory services, housing and wellbeing at Lichfield District Council, said: "Although the 50 weeks'



1 Roeg Wadham collects some waste . . .



2 . . . and watched by a council officer



3 . . . places it in his van . . .



4 . . . before shaking on the deal

imprisonment has been suspended, we are pleased the court has imposed a custodial sentence, and this case will cost Mr Wadham significantly more than the money he made by carrying out the offences.

"It will act as a warning to all the rogue traders out there who continue to charge for waste services, but then

illegally fly-tip rubbish in rural places, blighting the landscape and costing tax payers' money to clean it up.

"Working as part of this joint prosecution has meant that we could show just how much time and damage one business can do, and we hope his sentence will make Mr Wadham change his ways."

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£21,701	£6,749	5,000*	48 MONTHS	3.83%	3.9%

Representative Finance Example

CUSTOMER DEPOSIT	47 MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF	FINANCE DEPOSIT ALLOWANCE	CASH PRICE	AMOUNT OF CREDIT	FEES
£259**	£259	£1,700†	£21,282	£19,323	NIL
TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	OPTIONAL FINAL PAYMENT	ANNUAL MILEAGE	DURATION OF AGREEMENT	FIXED RATE OF INTEREST	REPRESENTATIVE APR (FIXED)
£23,496	£9,364	5,000*	48 MONTHS	3.83%	3.9%

Representative Finance Example

CUSTOMER DEPOSIT	47 MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF	FINANCE DEPOSIT ALLOWANCE	CASH PRICE	AMOUNT OF CREDIT	FEES
£159**	£159	£2,100†	£12,682	£10,423	NIL
TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	OPTIONAL FINAL PAYMENT	ANNUAL MILEAGE	DURATION OF AGREEMENT	FIXED RATE OF INTEREST	REPRESENTATIVE APR (FIXED)
£13,803	£4,071	5,000*	48 MONTHS	3.83%	3.9%

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AT YOUR LEISURE

Legendary Hoy rides into venue

Olympic legend Sir Chris Hoy rides into Birmingham to talk about his new book and his incredible career in cycling.

One of Great Britain's most successful Olympic athletes of all time, the six-time gold medallist was voted 2008 BBC Sports Personality of the Year, and was knighted in 2009. In 2016 he added to his record list of achievements when he finished the Le Mans 24 Hours race on his debut.

Sir Chris's new book, *How to Ride Bike* is a compelling guide to becoming a fitter and faster cyclist, and he takes the stage at Birmingham's Town Hall on September 18, from 7.30pm, to give the low-down.

Tickets start at £18. See boxoffice@thsh.co.uk or call 0121 780 4949.

Meanwhile, broadcaster Danny Baker is embarking on a series of 'one-night stands', with a stop-off in Birmingham included.

Good Time Charlie's Back comes after Baker successfully took *Cradle to Grave* out on the road, after which he vowed to never tour again. A dozen one-off shows were agreed instead and he will be at the Town Hall on September 17, from 7.30pm. Tickets are £22.50.

Adam Henson will take the Town Hall stage to share stories about his life, career and the running of the Costwold Farm Park on September 6, from 7pm.

The BBC Countryfile presenter will also give his thoughts on British Agriculture. Henson will answer audience questions and sign books. Tickets start at £20.50

La fille mal gardée cast



Stage is set for ballet

THE curtain will rise on Birmingham Royal Ballet's interpretation of Frederick Ashton's *La fille mal gardée* (The wayward girl) next month.

Ashton's Royal Ballet production began in 1959 when the British choreographer created a new version for the Royal Ballet of London.

The full-length ballet is an engaging story and has remained a firm family favourite.

It centres on country beauty Lise, who, when she falls in love with farm lad Colas, is

about to upset the apple cart. Her mother, widow Simone, has her own ideas about who her daughter should marry. Enter Thomas, a pompous and wealthy vineyard owner, and Alain, his rich son – as good-looking as a potato and smart as a turnip as well as the proud possessor of two left feet.

So Lise has a choice to make a choice – the a loaded country bumpkin or penniless, hunky farmhand? Of course, there's no contest, but Simone has other ideas. Heels are dug in and sparks fly, as a mother-daughter battle of wills

ensues. *La fille mal gardée* mixes spectacular classical ballet with slick comedy, a clog-dancing dame and a super-cute pony.

It runs at the Birmingham Hippodrome from September 26 to 29, at 7.30pm, each night, with a Thursday matinee at 2pm and a pre-performance talk on the Friday from 6.30pm. The final day will feature a touch tour at 10.30am, a class on stage at 11.45am, an audience open day at noon and an audio description matinee starting at 2.30pm. Tickets start at £16.

Egg-citing arena tour announced

Cirque du Soleil has announced a brand-new UK arena tour, OVO, and will perform in Birmingham in October.

For its UK debut in London in January, OVO officially became the highest-selling Cirque du Soleil performance run to visit the city. The tour comes to the Arena Birmingham stage from October 3-8.

The cast comprises 50 performing artists from 17 countries specialising in acrobatic acts. Among them is 'Black Spider', aka Alanna Baker from the United Kingdom, a gymnastics European champion in 2011 and a bronze medallist at the World Championships in 2012. Alanna, who has been training since the age of five, has travelled around the world with OVO and is now set for a return home.

Having thrilled more than five million people worldwide since it premiered in Montreal in 2009 as a Big Top show, OVO – Portuguese for egg – offers the same captivating production but on a larger scale.

OVO is a headlong rush into a colourful ecosystem teeming with life, where insects work, eat, crawl, flutter, play, fight and look for love in a non-stop riot of energy and movement. When a mysterious egg appears in their midst, the insects are awestruck and intensely curious about this iconic object that represents the enigma and cycles of their lives.

Tickets on sale now via the Cirque du Soleil website or at www.livenation.co.uk

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AT YOUR LEISURE

Pop out for rollercoaster ride through the decades



Stars G and Kayla

Pop Music comes to the theatre, in the form of a play described as an emotionally contagious rollercoaster.

From Bruntwood Prize winner Anna Jordan, Pop Music is performed at the REP Birmingham from September 12 to 22 at 8pm most nights. The Monday, September 17 show starts at 7pm and there's a 2.30pm matinee on Thursday, September 20.

Tickets start from £10. Visit <https://www.birmingham-rep.co.uk/whats-on/pop-music.html>

G and Kayla's lives are a mess but they're determined to 'Have It Large'. Full of adrenaline and cheap Prosecco, the audience can follow them on an epic journey through 30 years of pop.

Can the DJ save them as they become Dancing Queens, reliving their Teenage Dream, Staying Out For The Summer and spicing up their lives? Pop makes promises it can't keep, and soon they'll discover they have more in common than their taste in tunes.

With an epic soundtrack featuring three decades of pop, expect Beyoncé, Spice Girls, Michael Jackson and more, as G and Kayla talk, twerk, drink and dance their way through the night.

All performances feature British Sign Language and captioning.

If Joe Lycett you should see him on home soil

Birmingham comic Joe Lycett is back on home soil for two upcoming dates during his 2018 tour.

Following 'If Joe Lycett Then You Should've Put a Ring On It' and 'That's the Way A-Ha A-Ha, Joe Lycett', the 30-year-old Hall Green-born funnyman is now on a 48-date tour called 'I'm About To Lose Control And I Think Joe Lycett'.

In 2012, his debut stand-up show 'Some Lycett Hot' was nominated for the Best Newcomer at the Edinburgh Comedy Awards.

The comedian, who has featured on Live At The Apollo, 8 Out Of 10 Cats Does Countdown, QI and The Royal Variety Performance, and was a contestant on the fourth series of

Taskmaster, will be sharing jokes, paintings and some of the pathetic internet trolling he's been up to recently.

He performs at a sold-out Dudley Town Hall on September 7, from 8pm and at the Symphony Hall, Birmingham on November 12, 8pm. Tickets are £23.

The laughs continue with Comedy at the Cornbow, hosted by Dudley's Wayne Beese, described by Lycett as 'one of the best comperes I have ever had the pleasure of working with'.

Canadian tour-de-force Tom Stadel and award-winning Alun Cochrane and Jo Enright feature on the bill at the Cornbow Hall, in Hagley Street, Halesowen on September 15.

Early bird tickets are £15 at www.ticketsource.co.uk/comedycornbow



Birmingham comic Joe Lycett

War Horse runs again at the Hippodrome

Following eight record-breaking years in London's West End, the National Theatre's acclaimed production of War Horse returns to Birmingham Hippodrome later this year.

War Horse has been performed to more than seven million people in 11 countries and was last in Birmingham five years ago. It is being staged from October 10 to November 3.

Based on the novel by Michael Morpurgo, it tells of Albert, young Joey's beloved horse, who, at the outbreak of the First World War, is sold to the Cavalry and shipped to France. Soon, he is caught up in enemy fire and fate takes him on an extraordinary journey, serving on both sides before ending up in No Man's Land. Albert, still on his parents' farm in Devon, cannot forget Joey, and although too young to enlist, embarks on a treacherous mission to find him and bring him home.

At the heart of the moving drama are astonishing life-sized horses.

Tickets start from £29.50. See birminghamhippodrome.com or call 0844 338 5000.

Arena date on Horizon for steel city rockers

Bring Me The Horizon will play Birmingham later this year.

The announcement comes after the quintet released the debut single Mantra from their upcoming sixth studio album, Amo.

The Sheffield rockers formed in 2004, fronted by Drop Dead owner Oliver Sykes. They released their debut album Count Your Blessings in 2006, which featured songs such as For Stevie Wonder's Eyes Only and Pray for Plagues.

The band began to break away from their deathcore sound with follow-up release Suicide Season in 2008, which was a creative, critical and commercial turning point for the band.

Their major label debut, Sempiternal, was released in 2013 and achieved gold certification in Australia and silver in the United Kingdom.

Bring Me The Horizon have received four Kerrang! Awards, including two for Best British Band and one for Best Live Band. The group will play Arena Birmingham on November 23.

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CHOICE



Robbie Williams

The X Factor (ITV, 8pm)
New series. The search for the next music superstar takes under way as the talent contest returns. Heralding the start of a new era for the entertainment show, Robbie Williams, his wife Ayda and Louis Tomlinson join music mogul Simon Cowell on the brand new judging panel. Returning as host is Dermot O'Leary, who will be on hand to provide contestants with a word of advice - or a much-needed hug - as they perform in front of the judges. Also returning are the arena auditions at the SSE Arena, Wembley, with the hopefuls performing in front of a live audience.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Nadiya's Family Favourites. (R) **12.00** Football Focus. **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Athletics: Diamond League - Brussels and Zurich Highlights. **3.15** Money for Nothing. (R) **4.00** Final Score. **5.10** BBC News. **5.20** Regional Programme. **5.30 Film:** Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides. (2011) Fantasy adventure sequel, starring Johnny Depp. **7.35** **Impossible Celebrities.** The Rev Kate Bottley is among the 18 celebrities playing for charity in the quiz in which contestants compete for the chance to win money, with a single "impossible" answer knocking them out. **8.25** **Pointless Celebrities.** Alexander Armstrong and Richard Osman challenge four more teams of celebrity contestants to take part in the unorthodox general knowledge quiz. This time, Lucy Porter teams up with Rob Deering, and Rachel Johnson joins forces with her father Stanley. John Shuttleworth unites with Dave Gorman, and Carol McGiffin throws her lot in with Charlotte Crosby. (R) **9.10** **Casualty.** Iain struggles to make a speech at Sam's funeral, only for Dylan to stop him mid-sentence and publicly blame him for her death. Elsewhere, Ethan treats a pedestrian who has been hit by a motorbike, while Alicia looks after her son, who is in shock. Blake and Jacob bond over their shared feelings for Sam. **10.00** **BBC News:** Weather; National Lottery Update. **10.20** **Match of the Day.** Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, including Leicester City v Liverpool at the King Power Stadium and Burnley v Manchester United at Turf Moor. **11.45** **The NFL Show.** Mark Chapman is joined by former players Osi Umenyiora and Jason Bell to preview the new NFL season, with the pundits offering their thoughts and predictions on the next six months. **12.15** **Film:** Frigate Night. (2011) A teenager realises his neighbour is a vampire, and seeks the aid of a Las Vegas magician in slaying him. Comedy horror remake, with Anton Yelchin, Colin Farrell and David Tennant. **1.55** Weather for the Week Ahead. **2.00** BBC News.

BBC2

6.45 Top Class. (R) **7.10** Marrying Mum and Dad. (R) **7.40** Officially Amazing Goes Bunkers. (R) **8.10** The Dengineers. (R) **8.40** Absolute Genius with Dick & Dom. (R) **9.10** Planet Dinosaur. (R) **9.40** David Attenborough's Natural Curiosities. (R) **10.00** Nature's Miracle Babies. (R) **11.00** Natural World. (R) **12.00** Nigel Slater: Eating Together. (R) **12.30** Great British Menu. (R) **1.00** Great British Menu. (R) **1.30** Tom Kerridge's Proper Pub Food. (R) **2.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **3.00** Scrapers - Back in the Yard. (R) **3.30** Garden Rescue. (R) **4.15** Escape to the Country. (R) **5.15** Flog It! (R) **5.50** A Passage to Britain. (R) **6.50** **Proms Extra.** Katie Derham presents the final episode of 2018. Tonight's show has a double helping of Bernstein, with a look at On the Town and The Age of Anxiety. Plus, Simon Rattle conducting Ravel's L'enfant et les sortilèges and Andr s Schiff playing Bach. Last in the series. **7.30** **Eric & Ernie.** Drama charting the early years of one of Britain's best comedy double acts, focusing on the influence of Eric Morecambe's mother Sadie (Victoria Wood). A chance meeting on the children's variety circuit sees the start of an unlikely friendship and Eric soon becomes the funnymon to Ernie Wise's "feed". But as they grow older, the duo struggle to make their way in mainstream entertainment with a few dubious tours and an ill-advised TV series that has the critics gunning for them. Daniel Rigby and Bryan Dick star as Eric and Ernie, with Jim Moir (better known to comedy fans as Vic Reeves) and Reece Shearsmith as their fathers. (R) **9.00** **Morecambe and Wise in Pieces: The Sketches.** Penelope Keith presents another edition of the occasional series, this time travelling the archives for the best of Eric Morecambe and Ernie Wise's bite-sized routines from their shows. (R) **10.00** **Film: Gone Girl.** (2014) A man reports his wife's disappearance, only to end up under media scrutiny and accused of murder. David Fincher's crime thriller, with Ben Affleck and Rosamund Pike. **12.20** **Film: Mystery Road.** (2013) Murder mystery, with Aaron Pedersen and Hugo Weaving. **2.15** This is BBC Two. Preview of upcoming programmes from BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Dino Dana. **6.10** Super 4. (R) **6.25** Super 4. (R) **6.35** Make It Pop. (R) **7.00** Mission Employable. (R) **7.05** NinjaGo: Decoded. (R) **7.15** NinjaGo: Decoded. (R) **7.30** NinjaGo: Decoded. (R) **7.40** ToonMarty. (R) **7.55** Scrambled! The Shiniest Showdown Ever. (R) **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Zoo Ball on Saturday. **9.25** James Martin's Saturday Morning. **11.35** James Martin's American Adventure. (R) **12.00** Love Your Garden. (R) **1.05** 5:10k Holiday Home. (R) **1.35** ITV News; Weather. **1.45** Catchphrase. (R) **2.30** Tipping Point: Lucky Stars. (R) **3.30** The Chase. (R) **4.30** WOS Wrestling. **5.30** ITV News; Weather. **5.45** Regional Programme; Weather. **6.00** **Big Star's Little Star.** Stephen Mulhern hosts the entertainment show in which the children of Una Foden, Kate Silverton and Kriss Akaboshi spill the beans about their famous parents. Last in the series. **7.00** **Celebrity Catchphrase.** Stephen Mulhern hosts a celebrity edition of the game show, asking Rob Beckett, Ruth Jones and Jordan Banjo to 'see it and say it' as they try to guess the familiar phrases hidden in animated clues. After the first elimination, the two remaining players battle to reach the Super Catchphrase round, where one of them could win £50,000 for their chosen charity. **8.00** **The X Factor.** New series. The search for the next music superstar gets under way, featuring a brand new judging panel of Robbie and Ayda Williams, Louis Tomlinson and Simon Cowell. **9.15** **The Jonathan Ross Show.** New series. The host returns for another helping of celebrity chat. With guests Kevin Hart, Tiffany Haddish, Mel Giedroyc, Rob Beckett, Dave Bautista and Jess Glynne. **10.20** **ITV News:** Weather. **10.35** **Film: Two Weeks Notice.** (2002) A lawyer walks out on her job with a self-centred property tycoon, forcing him to pull out all the stops to win her back. Romantic comedy, with Sandra Bullock and Hugh Grant. **12.25** **WOS Wrestling.** (R) **1.15** Jackpot247. **3.00** Eternal Glory. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.15 The King of Queens. (R) **7.05** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.35** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Frasier. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **9.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.30** The Simpsons. (R) **11.00** The Simpsons. (R) **11.30** Para Triathlon: Superhero Tri. **1.00** Four in a Bed. (R) **1.30** Four in a Bed. (R) **2.00** Four in a Bed. (R) **2.30** Four in a Bed. (R) **3.00** Four in a Bed. (R) **3.30** The People's Vet. **4.30** Channel 4 News. **5.00** Formula 1: Italian Grand Prix Qualifying Highlights. **6.30** **Speed with Guy Martin: Classic F1 Special.** Guy takes part in his first-ever Formula 1 race as he goes head to head with 2009 world champion Jenson Button around Silverstone Grand Prix circuit. Guy is driving a classic 1983 Williams FW08c, working for six months with the Williams heritage Division to restore it from museum piece to racing condition, and learned how to drive Formula 1 style under the direction of Karun Chandhok, formerly of the Hispania Racing F1 Team, while Jenson takes to the track in a prototype six-wheeled Williams from the 1980s. (R) **8.00** **Film: Oblivion.** (2013) A repairman is assigned to salvage the remaining resources from Earth, which has been left a devastated wasteland after a war with an alien race. He discovers a human survivor on the surface of the planet, an encounter that exposes secrets from the past that threaten the future of the human race. Sci-fi adventure, starring Tom Cruise and Morgan Freeman. **10.15** **Film: Exodus: Gods and Kings.** (2014) The adoptive brother of the pharaoh of Egypt tries to free the country's slaves during a series of plagues. Biblical epic, starring Christian Bale and Joel Edgerton. **12.55** **Hollyoaks.** Omnibus. Imran's behaviour towards Misbah begins to improve, and Romeo and Prince are throw another rave. Meanwhile, Sami asks Ellie to travel around the world with him. (R) **3.05** French Collection. (R) **4.00** Village of the Year with Penelope Keith. The winning village from this week's heats is decided. (R) **4.55** Find It, Fix It, Flog It. Valuable items languishing in people's homes. (R) **5.50** Kirstie's Handmade Treasures. Kirstie Allsopp tries her hand at needlecraft at the Great Yorkshire Show. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **9.50** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.25** Pets Make You Laugh Out Loud. (R) **10.50** Police Interceptors. (R) **11.45** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.45** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.40** Police Interceptors. (R) **2.45** **Film:** Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End. (2007) Fantasy adventure sequel, starring Johnny Depp. **3.45** Access. **3.50** **Film:** Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End. (2007) Concluded. **6.00** **Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away!** High-court enforcement officers Paul Bonhill and Steve Pinner face some tough decisions when they are given the task of repossessing a house in which a woman is living with two young children. They also pursue a debt of more than £25,000 and visit a tenant in a fashionable London borough who has not paid his rent. (R) **7.00** **Cricket** on 5. England v India. Mark Nicholas presents action from day three of the Fourth Test in the five-match series, taking place at the Apeas Bowl in Southampton. **7.55** **5 News Weekend.** **8.00** **Brunel's Britain: Master of Bridges.** In a two-part series, Rob Bell explores the work of Victorian engineer Isambard Kingdom Brunel, exploring his complex personality as well as his prolific achievements. In the opening episode, Rob examines Brunel's first major project, the Thames Tunnel, before he went on to secure the post of official engineer to the proposed Great Western Railway. (R) **9.00** **How the Victorians Built Britain.** New series. How Britain was transformed during the Victorian era, including surprising stories behind iconic landmarks and the hidden heroes behind epic constructions. **10.00** **Celebrity Big Brother.** Highlights of the housemates' past 24 hours under the all-seeing eye of Big Brother, as they try to get used to living alongside one another. **11.05** **Lip Sync Battle US: Michael Jackson Special.** Chrissy Teigen and LL Cool J invite Hailee Steinfeld, Taraji P Henson, Neil Patrick Harris and Laverne Cox to mimic the moves of Michael Jackson. **12.00** Cruising with Jane McDonald. (R) **12.15** SuperCasino. **3.10** Gotham: Rise of the Villains. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 Secrets of Our Living Planet **8.00** Lost Land of the Tiger **9.00** The Plague **10.45** Reading Festival 2018: The Best Bits **11.45** Top of the Pops: 1986 **12.45** Jimi Hendrix: The Road to Woodstock **1.45** Secrets of Our Living Planet **2.45** Lost Land of the Tiger **3.45** Close **ITV2**
12.50 You've Been Framed! Gold **1.25** **Film:** Spy Kids 2: Island of Lost Dreams (2002) **2.25** FYI Daily **2.30** **Film:** Spy Kids 2: Island of Lost Dreams (2002) **3.30** **Film:** Dirty Dancing 2: Havana Nights (2004) **4.30** FYI Daily **4.35** **Film:** Dirty Dancing 2: Havana Nights (2004) **5.20** **Film:** Star Wars: Episode VI - Return of the Jedi (1983) **6.20** FYI Daily **6.25** **Film:** Star Wars: Episode VI - Return of the Jedi (1983) **8.00** **Film:** Rock of Ages (2012) **9.00** FYI Daily **9.05** **Film:** Rock of Ages (2012) **10.25** Family Guy: American Dad! **12.25** **Film:** Van Helsing (2004) **1.30** FYI Daily **1.35** **Film:** Van Helsing (2004) **2.55** Teleshopping **5.55** ITV2 Nightscreen **ITV3**
3.05 **Film:** Carry On Don't Lose Your Head (1966) **4.55** Agatha Christie's Poirot **11.00** Midsomer Murders **9.00** Endeavour **11.00** Vera **1.00** On the Buses **2.00** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping **ITV4**
12.00 Dirtquake VII **1.00** Storage Wars **1.30** ITV Racing: Live from Sandown. **4.00** **Film:** The Train Robbers (1973) **5.00** FYI Daily **5.05** **Film:** The Train Robbers (1973) **5.55** Mr Bean **7.00** Cycling: Vuelta a Espana **8.00** River Monsters **9.00** **Film:** Tremors (1990) **10.00** FYI Daily **10.05** **Film:** Tremors (1990) **11.05** **Film:** Crank (2006) **12.05** FYI Daily **12.10** **Film:** Crank (2006) **12.50** Better Late Than Never **1.45** Minder **2.35** Football's Greatest: Johan Cruyff **2.45** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping **E4**
11.30 **Film:** Tooth Fairy (2010) **1.30** The Big Bang Theory **3.00** The Great British Bake Off **4.15** The Great British Bake Off: An Extra Slice **5.20** Extreme Cake Makers **5.30** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** **Film:** Pitch Perfect (2012) **11.10** Gogglebox **1.20** Tattoo Fixers **2.25** Rude Tube **3.15** Gogglebox **4.10** Rude(ish) Tube **4.30** Young & Hungry **Film4**
1.00 Romancing the Stone (1984) **3.05** Titanic (1997) **6.50** Last Vegas (2013) **9.00** Red (2010) **11.15** Dracula Untold (2014) **1.05** Princess Mononoke (1997) **3.50** Close

Star

Reader

Travel

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CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS
in Cheshire

Departing Sunday 23 Dec

Truly a Christmas getaway to remember, join us to enjoy the best the North West of England has to offer at this festive time of year; from enjoying a traditional pantomime to exploring Cheshire's capital of Chester, one of Britain's best-preserved historic cities.

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- ✓ Porterage
- ✓ After dinner tea and coffee
- ✓ Light entertainment every night
- ✓ Pantomime ticket
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in Torquay

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- ✓ Welcome drink
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- ✓ Christmas Day lunch followed by afternoon bingo
- ✓ Entertainment every night
- ✓ Pantomime ticket
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& Thames River Cruise

Departing Sunday 30 Dec

This fabulous New Year's break includes a 3-course meal at Brasserie Blanc on New Year's Eve followed by a night cruise on the River Thames where we will bring in 2019 in style. Don't miss out on the chance to join this unique New Year's celebration!

Your break includes

- ✓ Return coach travel **from Cannock & Stafford**
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- ✓ 3-course dinner at Brasserie Blanc with a glass of sparkling wine and half a bottle of wine pp with dinner
- ✓ River Thames Cruise with glass of sparkling wine
- ✓ Visit to the New Year's Day Parade in London
- ✓ Excursion to Windsor

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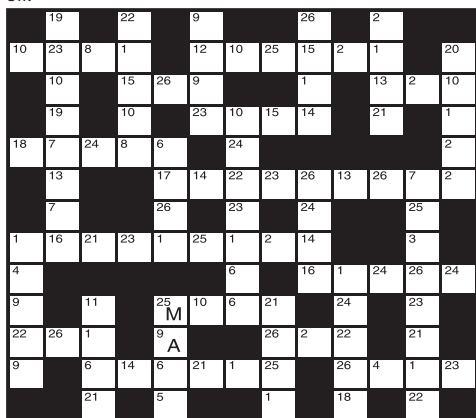
033 numbers are free within inclusive minutes packages, otherwise standard rates apply. or visit us online at **justgoholidays.com/RT**

BRAIN GYM

No.495

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
S	P	H	L	Y	V	D	A	W	R	K	B	I
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
J	E	T	G	X	M	C	Z	U	O	Q	F	N

1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues – both fit the same grid.

Cryptic Clues:

Across

- Get to stretch of river (5)
- 500 playing the piano, the asses! (7)
- Coarser shopkeeper, we hear (7)
- Serious accent (5)
- With strings attached? (4)
- Again rigid limit (8)
- Get rid of hut (4)
- Scold for speed (4)
- To rig hut thoroughly perhaps (8)
- Clean warhead with fire residue (4)
- Assign everybody to return (5)
- Indian Ocean island for a get-together again? (7)
- Finish smaller, though going on for ever (7)
- Newspapers feel the squeeze? (5)

Down

- Correct until engagement, without any backlog at all (5,2,2,4)
- Sailor takes poem home (5)
- Does he have a great crowd to entertain? (4)
- Obscure coffer in cavern (6)
- Drink to sleep in? (5-3)
- Inspect axe sent up to pit (7)
- 000s of sugary endearments? (5,8)
- Disparage command to avoid greatness? (8)
- Paid the account and stayed there permanently (7)
- Suitable wear for putting spirits down? (6)
- A team apart (5)
- Is it taken easily by camel-riders? (4)



Quick Clues:

Across

- Surpass (5)
- Sorrow (7)
- Part-exchange (5-2)
- In competition (5)
- Drill (4)
- View (8)
- Appendage (4)
- Price (4)
- Innocuous (8)
- Basin (4)
- Correct (5)
- Intellectual (7)
- Shreds (7)
- Thick (5)

Down

- Institution (13)
- Professorship (5)
- Sediment (4)
- Divers (6)
- Compartment (8)
- Clear (7)
- Forswear alcohol (4,3,6)
- Drive out (8)
- Flood (7)
- Estimate (6)
- Seas (5)
- Old (4)

Sudoku

		6			9			
	4	1	2		5		3	
	5			9			8	
1	6						4	7
			6		3			5
7	2		1				9	8
	9			1			2	
	1		4		8		6	
		4				8	7	

Fill in the grid above so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

4	9	1	2	8	6	3	5	7
2	5	8	9	3	7	1	4	6
6	3	7	5	4	1	8	9	2
7	2	3	4	9	5	6	8	1
8	1	5	3	6	2	9	7	4
9	6	4	1	7	8	2	3	5
3	4	2	7	1	9	5	6	8
5	7	6	8	2	3	4	1	9
1	8	9	6	5	4	7	2	3

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 3 Pill-boxes; 8 Lime; 9 Compasses; 10 Patron; 11 Sleep; 14 Adorn; 15 Drop; 16 Treat; 18 Teal; 20 Again; 21 Local; 24 Bushel; 25 Corvettes; 26 Arms; 27 Foreshore.
Down: 1 Elephants; 2 Emotional; 4 Iron; 5 Lapel; 6 Ousted; 7 Even; 9 Count; 11 Shell; 12 Preachers; 13 Spineless; 17 Tagus; 19 Louvre; 22 Aitch; 23 Go to; 24 Bear. QUICK - Across: 3 Impromptu; 8 Pond; 9 Originate; 10 Exempt; 11 Steer; 14 Elver; 15 Dawn; 16 Aloof; 18 Anew; 20 Evoke; 21 Wrath; 24 Beaten; 25 Contender; 26 Turf; 27 Refectory.
Down: 1 Ephemeral; 2 Interview; 4 Mart; 5 Fight; 6 Minded; 7 Tote; 9 Opera; 11 Sloth; 12 Raconteur; 13 Indemnify; 17 Fewer; 19 Writhe; 22 Tenet; 23 Poke; 24 Bear.

Quiz

- Where is the annual British Showjumping Derby held?
- Which great circle may be terrestrial or celestial?
- In which US state is the Corning Museum of Glass, reputedly the world's finest collection?
- Who directed The Wild Bunch in 1969?
- For which motor racing team did Nigel Mansell drive (briefly) in 1995?
- Which book of stories inspired Baden Powell to form the Wolf Cub division of the Boy Scout movement?
- Which astronomical feature may be spiral, barred or elliptical?
- What type of trader's traditional sign is three gold balls?
- Which Christian festival commemorates the coming of the Magi?
- What is a skua?

Last week's solutions:

- Quiz: 1 Gustave Flaubert; 2 Chloroform; 3 South Africa; 4 Universities; 5 Privet; 6 Rabbit; 7 Camille Saint-Saens; 8 Harpo; 9 Eucalyptus; 10 Gerald Durrell.

Niner: FATHERING

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

825736
543796
386716

gives flowers,
gives more flowers,
gives bunches of flowers.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

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FINAL WHISTLE

Executive home is finished to a modern standard

Lovett&Co. Estate Agents are pleased to offer for sale this immaculately presented executive detached family home set back from the road down a private driveway.

The residence is on sale for £275,000.

The property has been tastefully decorated and finished to a good modern standard. Features include a spacious lounge, four double bedrooms with en-suite to the master, a Victorian style conservatory, a charming private landscaped rear garden which is not overlooked, an integral garage and a driveway with parking for several vehicles.

It is situated in the popular parish of Armitage with Handsacre and enjoys a range of local village amenities whilst also benefitting from further facilities found within the nearby cathedral city of Lichfield or Rugeley town centre.

Commuter benefits include A5, A38 and the M6 toll road linking the Midlands motorway network, and there are both cross and inter city railway lines available from Lichfield. The property has two floors, and on the ground floor comprises of a reception hallway, a lounge, a kitchen, a dining room, a conservatory, a utility, a W/C and an integral garage.

The kitchen features an extensive range of matching wall and base units incorporating cupboards, drawers and work surfaces. There is also an inset sink and drainer sink with mixer taps, space for an oven, laminate flooring, a ceiling light point, a useful storage cupboard, a window to the rear and a door to the utility.

On the first floor the residence features four double bedrooms, en-suite to master bedroom and modern family bathroom. Externally the property offers a driveway with parking for several vehicles and a private rear garden.

The property benefits from UPVC double glazing, cavity wall/loft insulation and gas central heating throughout.

HANDSACRE £275,000



TO VIEW THIS PROPERTY

AGENT: Lovett&Co

TEL: 01543 889410

EMAIL: info@lovettco.co.uk

KEY FEATURES

Good sized end plot
Modern and spacious throughout
Private rear garden and private driveway
En-suite to the master bedroom
Four large bedrooms



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BURNWOOD CHASE VALE



- Fully Renovated
- Immaculately presented
- Modern fitted kitchen
- Modern fitted bathroom
- Lounge/diner
- Two double bedrooms
- Enclosed rear garden
- Garage & Driveway
- Viewing Essential

£245,000

HEATH HAYES NUTHATCH CLOSE



- No chain
- Three bedrooms
- Lounge
- Kitchen/diner
- Family bathroom
- En-suite
- Driveway
- Garage
- EPC Rating C

£189,950

HEATH HAYES NEWLANDS LANE



- A spacious 3 bedroom detached
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, conservatory
- Kitchen, dining area
- Master bedroom with en suite
- Family bathroom
- Front and rear gardens
- Driveway and garage
- EPC rating D

£269,950

CANNOCK HATHERTON ROAD



- Traditional Two bedroom
- Two reception rooms
- Newly fitted kitchen
- Newly fitted bathroom
- Enclosed Garden
- Driveway
- Two double bedrooms
- Bought after location
- EPC rating E

169,950

HEDNESFORD HILL STREET



- A spacious three bedroom bungalow
- Lounge, sitting room, kitchen/diner
- Utility room
- Shower room
- Dressing room/wash room
- Garden to rear
- Driveway
- Awaiting EPC rating

£255,000

SHOAL HILL DORCHESTER ROAD



- A spacious 2/3 bedroom detached
- Lounge/diner, conservatory
- Sitting room/bar area
- Study, kitchen, utility, guest cloakroom
- MAster bedroom with ensuite
- Family bathroom, Lift
- Gardens front, side and rear
- Double garage
- Awaiting EPC rating

£390,000

CHESLYN HAY WESTON ROAD



- A spacious three bedroom
- Lounge/diner
- Fitted kitchen
- Conservatory
- Master bedroom with ensuite
- Family bathroom
- Off road parking
- Awaiting EPC rating

£189,950

HEATH HAYES DENBURY CLOSE



- A three bedroom detached
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, dining room
- Kitchen
- Three bedrooms
- Family bathroom
- Good sized rear garden
- Garage and driveway
- Awaiting EPC rating

£200,000

CANNOCK MORETON STREET



- A two bedroom detached bungalow
- Central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, dining room
- Kitchen, shower room
- Two bedrooms
- Good sized rear garden
- In need of modernisation
- Awaiting EPC rating

£104,950

PENKRIDGE LITTLE MARSH PARK



- A spacious two bedroom park home
- Kitchen, sitting room
- Lounge, dining room
- Guest cloakroom
- Two bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Canal side setting

£119,950

WIMBLEBURY JOHN STREET



- An extended three bedroom
- Additional loft room
- Lounge/diner
- Kitchen
- Family bathroom
- Garden to rear
- Off road parking
- Garage
- Awaiting EPC rating

£184,950

NORTON CANES ARBOUR MEWS



- A spacious three bedroom detached
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, dining room, conservatory
- Breakfast kitchen
- Master bedroom with en suite
- Family bathroom
- Driveway and garage
- Private drive location
- EPC rating D

£249,950

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PROPERTY



A charming 18th century detached character cottage enjoying a picturesque rural location

A charming 18th century detached character property, Ivy Cottage in Lichfield Road, Armitage, Rugeley, lies in grounds of just over a third of an acre.

In peaceful and picturesque countryside between Lichfield and Armitage, it is for sale through Lovett & Co at £595,000.

The three-bedroom property includes a further fully refurbished

**ARMITAGE
£595,000**

detached cottage ideal for an extended family or as a potential income stream as a rental or short term let.

A stand-out feature is the surrounding landscaped gardens

backing onto fields at the rear. The property has two floors. On the ground floor is a porch, sitting room/diner, a lounge, sitting room/study, kitchen, utility, bathroom and WC.

On the first floor there is a separate WC, three double bedrooms with an en-suite to the master bedroom. The home has a brand new central heating boiler.

Call Lovett & Co on 01543 889410.



Ideally-located and well-presented three-bed

This very well presented three-bedroomed detached house in Denbury Close, Cannock, is for sale through Flint & Co Estate Agents at £200,000.

Ideally located in the popular residential area of Heath Hayes, it is close to shops, amenities, public transport routes and a good school catchment area.

In more detail, the entrance hallway has laminate wood-effect flooring

**CANNOCK
£200,000**

and a storage cupboard.

The kitchen has a range of base and wall-mounted units with work surfaces over incorporating a one and a half steel sink and drainer, plumbing for a washing machine, space for a fridge freezer, space for a cooker, an extractor hood, partial

wall tiling, tiled flooring, a double glazed window to the front and door to dining room. Having stairs off to the first floor, the dining room has double glazed French doors to the rear. Upstairs, the master bedroom has built-in wardrobes with mirrored sliding doors and a double glazed window to the rear..

Outside, to the front of the property there is a lawned area and driveway.

Call Flint & Co on 01543 624400.

Executive-style
four-bedroom
property is set
on a corner plot

CANNOCK CHASE
£238,000 >>>

Situated on a popular residential new build estate close to the town centre of Rugeley, this home in Burnthill Lane, Cannock Chase, is for sale through Southwells Estate Agents at £238,000.

A four-bedroomed executive detached property occupying a corner plot, its accommodation briefly comprises an entrance hall, a lounge, a dining room, a kitchen, a utility and a ground floor WC. There is also a large conservatory.

To the first floor are four bedrooms, the master coming with an en-suite shower room, and a family bathroom.

There is also an integral garage and gardens to front, side and rear. The home also has gas central heating and double glazing. The selling agents are expecting a great deal of interest to be shown in the sale of this home.

Contact Southwells Estate Agents on 01889 582137.



Spacious family
home located in
a popular area

CANNOCK
£500,000

A very well-presented and exceptionally spacious four-bedroomed detached family residence, Pendle House, at 13 Sandy Lane, Cannock, is for sale through Flint & Co now at £500,000.

It is ideally located in the popular and prestigious area of Shoal Hill.

Featuring multiple reception areas with four double bedrooms, this property is a classy retreat for larger families, and truly needs to be viewed to be fully appreciated.

It has an entrance porch, grand entrance hallway, sitting room, guest WC, breakfast kitchen/diner, laundry room, dining room, conservatory, lounge, four bedrooms and an en-suite bathroom, along with a family bathroom and a separate walk-in shower.

A spokesman for the selling agent said: "Being hugely deceptive from first glance of the exterior, there is far more internally that meets the eye, and we would strongly recommend anyone looking for an elegant



home within an illustrious location to view at their earliest opportunity."

In more detail the entrance porch has quarry tiled flooring and a hardwood panelled/glazed door.

The reception hallway has stairs off to the first floor, with ornate plaster coving and an ornate plaster ornament niche. Outside to the front of the property there is a block paved driveway providing ample off road parking leading to the detached double garage.

There is a well stocked and well manicured rear garden with lawn, display borders, flowers and shrubs and a paved patio seating area.

For details or to book a viewing call Flint & Co on 01543 624400.



Stunning house
decorated in a
modern style set
over three floors

LICHFIELD
£550,000 <<<

This deceptively spacious and stunning five-bedroomed Georgian property in Walsall Road, Lichfield, is set over three floors.

Tastefully decorated and finished in a modern, contemporary style throughout, it is for sale through Lovett & Co at £550,000.

The property features a generous side extension providing extra living accommodation on the ground floor and three en-suites plus a dressing room/bedroom to the first and second floors.

Other features include parking to the rear, a private rear garden, an open plan kitchen with a rear sitting/dining area, further spacious ground floor reception rooms and a cellar ideal for storage. Viewing is highly advised to fully appreciate the size of the property.

Contact Lovett & Co on 01543 889 410.



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Heather Valley
HEDNESFORD



Stunning four bedroom detached family home / Set on highly sought after semi rural area / Occupies good sized corner plot / Mature three tier private rear garden / Driveway for up to six vehicles

£450,000

Castlecroft
NORTON CANES



Executive four bedroom detached family home / Highly sought after residential cul-de-sac / Stunning rear orangery / driveway with parking for two vehicles and separate double garage / NO CHAIN

£450,000

Pinetrees
BRERETON



Stunning four bedroom detached house / High spec contemporary finish / Private driveway and double garage / Stunning open pan kitchen and large conservatory

£384,995

Castlecroft
NORTON CANES



Immaculately presented executive four bedroom detached house / Exclusive sought after cul-de-sac location / Spacious reception rooms and bedrooms / Victorian style conservatory / Garage and drive

£375,000

Kingfisher Drive
HEDNESFORD



Immaculately presented three bedroom detached bungalow / Set on large secluded plot / Large private driveway for up to four vehicles / Substantial landscaped rear & side gardens / Spacious living &

£300,000

Shugborough Way
HEATH HAYES



Superbly maintained & well presented four bedroom detached family home / Substantial amount of work carried out by current vendors / Additional conservatory / Rear garage conversion / Further sitting

£280,000

Ingestre Close
HEATH HAYES



Well presented four/five bedroom executive detached house / Spacious lounge and separate dining room / Useful ground floor bedroom/sitting room / Good sized private rear garden

£280,000

Stafford Lane
HEDNESFORD



Immaculately presented three bedroom detached house / Substantially improved property / Spacious lounge / Good sized bedrooms / Garage and driveway

£260,000

Redmond Close
ETCHING HILL



NO UPWARD CHAIN / Stunning four bedroom detached family home / Set on end plot within quiet cul-de-sac / Refurbished & finished to high standard throughout / Brand new combi boiler / Contemporary

£255,000

Woodfield Drive
NORTON CANES



Well presented three bedroom detached bungalow / NO ONWARD CHAIN / Driveway for up to three vehicles / Landscaped low maintenance rear garden / Modern fitted kitchen / Part converted attic

£250,000

Pine Close
GREAT WYRLEY



Deceptively spacious two bedroom detached bungalow / Immaculately presented throughout with tasteful decoration / Modern fitted open plan kitchen-diner / Driveway with parking for up

£230,000

Devonshire Drive
RUGELEY



Refurbished three bedroom semi detached bungalow / Spacious open plan living area / Three double bedrooms / Modern fitted bathroom with skylight / Parking & garage to the rear

Offers in the Region Of £220,000

Redbrook Close
HEATH HAYES



Well presented and superbly maintained two bedroom detached bungalow / Set back from the road at the end of quiet cul-de-sac / Spacious lounge-diner / Two double bedrooms / High spec kitchen /

£190,000

Juniper Close
HAZEL SLADE



Immaculately presented three bedroom semi detached family home / New high spec Howdens fitted kitchen / NO ONWARD CHAIN / Fully refurbished / Spacious lounge diner / semi rural area / Garage

Offers in Excess of £180,000

Holt Crescent
HEATH HAYES



Three bedroom semi detached house / NO ONWARD CHAIN / Refurbished property / Quiet end plot / Spacious open plan lounge-diner / Integral garage and driveway

£180,000

Pheasant Way
HEATH HAYES



Well presented three bedroom end of terrace house / NO CHAIN / Parking to the rear plus a separate garage / Good sized lounge / Private rear garden / En-suite to the master

£170,000

The Brambles
NORTON CANES



Immaculately presented and superbly maintained three bedroom semi-detached house / Desirable corner plot position at the end of a quiet cul-de-sac / Finished to an exceptional standard throughout

Offers in Excess of £165,000

Chapel Street
NORTON CANES



Modern finished two bedroom semi detached house / Ideal for first time buyers & investors / Off road parking on private driveway for three vehicles / Landscaped private rear garden / Modern fitted

£155,000

Brooklyn Road
HEATH HAYES



Two bedroom end terraced house / Quiet cul-de-sac / Modern re-fitted kitchen and bathroom / Good sized low maintenance private rear garden / Off road residents parking

£150,000

Gorsemoor Road
HEATH HAYES



Immaculately presented traditional two bedroom semi detached house / Spacious reception rooms / Modern fitted kitchen & bathroom / Good sized private rear garden / Two double bedrooms

£145,000

Chequers Court
NORTON CANES



Well presented and deceptively spacious two bedroom property / Close to local shops and amenities / Close to local shops and amenities / Driveway with parking for two vehicles / Private rear garden

£145,000

Priory Road
BRERETON



Deceptively spacious two bedroom semi detached house / Set on generous plot / Ideal for first time buyers & investors / Gated driveway with parking for two vehicles / Surrounding gardens with hedged

£140,000

Foster Avenue
HEDNESFORD



Traditional three bedroom semi detached house / Good sized private rear garden / Spacious lounge and open plan kitchen-diner / Driveway with parking for two vehicles

Offers in Excess of £140,000

Huntington Terrace Road
CANNOCK



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Family home with three bedrooms new to market

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£215,000 >>>

New to the property market, this three-bedroomed individually designed detached family home in Lichfield Road, Walsall, has considerable scope for modernisation.

It is for sale through Marrion & Co Estate Agents at £215,000 with no chain.

Occupying a deep plot with garaging to the rear, the gas centrally heated and double glazed accommodation briefly includes an enclosed porch, an entrance hall/stairs, two reception rooms, a kitchen with a WC and stores, three bedrooms, a bathroom/WC, mature gardens and garage/driveway to the rear.

It has deceptively large internal accommodation. The house adjoins a shared vehicular driveway, which leads down to a garage and ample off road parking. The rear garden is both large and private.

Contact Marrion & Co on 01922 404446.



Stunning house is packed with the 'wow factor'

BLOXWICH
£450,000

Packed with the 'wow factor' and having a motivated seller, this stunning five-bedroomed executive family home in Sanstone Road, Bloxwich, is for sale through Webbs Estate Agents at £450,000.

Deceptively spacious and presented to a very high standard, it is close to all local amenities, shops and schools.

Its accommodation briefly comprises an entrance porch, an entrance hallway, a lounge, a sitting room, an office (garage conversion), a kitchen/diner, an orangery, a utility room, guest WC, five bedrooms, an en-suite and a bathroom.

Outside there is a garage, a driveway and landscaped gardens.

In more detail the entrance hall has stairs to the first floor with the guest WC close by. The sitting room has windows to the front and rear and a door to the office.

The lounge has a window to the front elevation and an



inset feature fireplace.

The kitchen/diner has a window to the side, ample units, granite working surfaces, an inset sink, integral oven, hob with an extractor hood over, a dishwasher, a fridge freezer, a door to the utility room and an open aspect to the orangery.

The utility and orangery complete the ground floor.

Upstairs, bedrooms one and two have en-suites, and there are the three further bedrooms and a bathroom.

The landscaped gardens include a paved patio area, a decked seating area, astro turf and designated seating.

Contact Webbs Estate Agents on 01922 663399.



Well-presented property that has potential for an extension

BLOXWICH
£210,000 <<<

This well-presented family home in Astbury Close, Bloxwich, lies in a cul-de-sac on the popular Turnberry development.

Having potential to extend, subject to permissions, it is for sale through Goodchilds Estate Agents at £210,000.

The property has been well maintained and has a block paved driveway for two vehicles, an entrance hall with a guest WC, the main lounge leading through to a kitchen/diner with a conservatory to the rear.

To the first floor are three bedrooms and a beautifully re-fitted bathroom.

To the outside is a private and well-established rear garden with a patio area and a door into the garage.

The selling agents are expecting a great deal of interest in this sale.

Contact Goodchilds Estate Agents on 01922 405699.



Citroën's upmarket plans for C4 Cactus

By Carmel Stewart

Some C4 Cactus customers were a little prickly when it came to the bubble wrap Airbump panels which adorned the sides of the original model. Personally, I thought they were distinctive and hinted at a fun drive but what do I know?

For the second-generation compact hatchback, Citroën bowed to pressure and reduced those tough, air filled polyurethane bump strips to slender strips. In fact, only 10 per cent of all the original exterior body components have been retained for this model.

Experience

A new look front end now boasts LED daytime running lights, sharper headlights and additional chrome highlighting together with body coloured bumper side scoops, all ensuring a clear delineation between the old and the new.

The driving experience has also changed thanks to the addition of progressive hydraulic cushion suspension which adjusts in stages to match the road surface, advanced comfort seats with high density foam and noticeably larger squabs (ie the bit you sit on).

Better cabin soundproofing has been achieved through the addition of an acoustic windscreen, thicker glass, new door seals and improved sound insulation round the engine housing.

But not everything has changed – thank goodness. The new Cactus has retained the funny little rear quarter window opening-ratchet release and push – just enough for a breath of fresh air.



All apps and info are on a touchscreen

Technology on the new C4 Cactus includes active safety brake and blind spot monitoring – an increasingly useful aid in these days of undisciplined motorway driving – park assist and a reversing camera, plus hill start assist, grip control and fog lights with a cornering function. All are evidence of the market this new car is aimed at.

And watch out for the 'take a break' flashing cup and saucer which appears on the dash when you have been on the road for more than two hours.

The all-important connectivity – in this case via MirrorLink – is compatible with Apple CarPlay and Android Auto. All apps and info are contained on a seven-inch touch screen. DAB radio and Bluetooth are standard on all models.

For those who like to make their mark on a car, there are 31 exterior combinations – nine body colours combined with four body packs



The latest C4 Cactus has a new look front end, LED daytime running lights, sharper headlights and additional chrome highlighting

plus four different designs and materials for the interior.

Needless to say, the engine range has also been revised. A new PureTech 130 petrol with six-speed manual transmission, has been added to the list to run alongside the PureTech 110 with manual or automatic gearing and the Blue HDi 130. Truth to tell, the 1.5litre diesel was hard work and far less agile than the

1.2litre 130 petrol which hummed along very nicely.

On the road, the hydraulic suspension, while not able to iron out every rut and bump, certainly makes a difference and, combined with the optional wider, advanced comfort seats, adds up to a smooth driving experience which borders on fun – despite those smaller airbumps.

Three different trims are on offer – Feel, Feel Edition and Flair. Prices start at £17,265 for the Feel Edition – a special introductory launch version powered exclusively by the PureTech 82 with five-speed manual gearing. Feel starts at £17,965 and the top of the range Flair at £19,865. So, not cheap but a price point which clearly demonstrates Citroën's upmarket intentions with this model.

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Nexo makes us wish future was here

By Tom Wiltshire

There's a certain deadlock between car manufacturers and governments at the moment regarding the supposed fuel of the future, hydrogen.

While plenty of manufacturers are poised to release fuel-cell vehicles, they're reluctant to do so with no real refuelling infrastructure in place – and governments are unlikely to invest in hydrogen stations with so few cars around to use them. It's fallen to Hyundai to plough forward with the Nexo – the successor to its ix35 Fuel Cell and soon to be the Toyota Mirai's only hydrogen-powered rival in the UK.

The Nexo is all new, from its futuristic powertrain to the concept car-esque styling. While the ix35 Fuel Cell was based on the existing ix35 SUV, the Nexo is its own model.

Hyundai aims to sell a few thousand Nexos a year in markets across the world, hopefully spurring on the development of a hydrogen infrastructure and providing a long-distance, quick-refuelling alternative to pure-electric vehicles.

It debuts some key new tech for Hyundai, including a new 12.3-inch infotainment display, driver-assistance features such as a blind-spot view monitor and lane-follow assist.

Under the hood sits a hydrogen fuel cell stack, which takes its juice from three hydrogen tanks mounted fore and aft of the rear axle. There's an electric motor and small battery pack too, but for most of the time the car is driven by the fuel cell. There are a number of benefits to this. First of all there's refuelling, which takes just a few minutes compared with the several hours you'll wait for an electric car to charge. A full-tank Nexo is capable of a theoretical 497 miles,



Refuelling takes just a few minutes

too – more than any EV currently available. The only emission from the Nexo is water, and particulate filters mean the car purifies the air around it as it drives.

The Nexo's peak output is 161bhp, delivered in the typical electric car way. That is to say, it's torquey, quick and smooth off the line, but power soon tails off and the Nexo isn't the most responsive car on the motorway.

The Nexo is a heavy car and that weight is noticeable in the corners, where it isn't exactly a sports car. That's no real criticism, as buyers won't be looking for groundbreaking handling prowess, but they might be disappointed by a slightly sharp-edged ride over rougher surfaces.

It's a refined cruiser, though, with some clever aerodynamic touches on the slippery body reducing wind noise. It's also a tech-fest, with Hyundai's semi-autonomous systems making life just that little bit easier. Lane-follow assist – a combination of radar-guided cruise control and lane-keeping functions – works



The Nexo is all new, from its futuristic powertrain to the concept car-esque styling

brilliantly, keeping the car steadier than most rival systems. There's also an innovative blind spot monitoring system, which displays a camera feed of the car's blind spot in the instrument cluster when you indicate. It will also park itself while you're outside it.

The Hyundai Nexo looks every bit the futuristic SUV and remains remarkably true to its concept. The glamorous touches don't seem contrived or compromised, though, and the result is a slick-looking crossover with some really interesting design details.

The full-width LED light bar across the front gives an eye-catching signature, especially in the dark, while glittery tail lights give a similar effect at the rear. The streamlined alloy wheels

are less successful and look a little cheap, but the sides of the car are brought back up to par with sleek hidden door handles.

Overall, the effect is close enough to a standard crossover that it won't alienate buyers who don't like to stand out, but there's enough visual interest to satisfy most.

This is one of the most premium Hyundai interiors yet, and there's a very 'Lexus' feel to the high-set centre console. However, it's dotted with a rash of cheap-feeling buttons and decked out in the sort of silver plastic you'd find on an early 2000s Mercedes SLK. Very appealing to the North American market; less so to Europeans.

There's plenty of room on offer, though, with

a 461-litre boot, decent rear legroom and good storage for oddments in and around the cabin.

What can't be argued with is the tech on offer in the Nexo. There's a digital instrument display and widescreen infotainment unit that works rather well, the aforementioned safety and driver aids, climate control, heated and cooled seats, LED lights front and rear and a powered tailgate.

However, you'd expect all this from such an expensive car. Hydrogen tech is in its infancy and as such can't be offered at the same price as electric rivals. We'd expect to see the Hyundai to be priced near £60,000, dipping to around £55,000 when the government's electric car grant is taken into account.

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The car looks a lot like the old one but sharpened up all round

Solid seller becomes even better as Ceed moves on

By Ian Donaldson

There's something missing on the latest Kia, although you may hardly notice. Or indeed care.

Especially as it's all about the way the name is presented, with the over complicated and now former c'eed becoming simply Ceed.

It's the sort of thing that bothers car makers rather more than the folk who buy their product, but from now on it's simply Ceed – as in a car for the Community of Europe, with European Design.

This latest version of a car that has been a solid seller since they started to appear in 2006 looks a lot like the old one (no bad thing) but sharpened up all round and a little bit wider but lower for a more athletic look.

More practically, the result is a bigger boot and more shoulder room for rear seat passengers in this five-door hatchback, which continues to offer enough space for a growing family and their luggage.

The dashboard looks more upmarket and modern while, thankfully, keeping enough old fashioned buttons to make life for the driver both more convenient and safer than relying too much on the finger dabs and swipes on a touchscreen.

Engines

There's a choice of three engines, two petrol and one diesel. Leading the petrol charge is an undated version of the existing 1.0 litre with 118bhp. More power is available from a new 1.4 litre petrol unit which replaces the old and larger 1.6 and with 138bhp on tap is actually modestly more potent. It's also usefully economical, with 48.7mpg on the new official test and 132g/km of emissions.

Showing there's life in diesels yet, your Ceed can have a new 1.6 litre 114bhp powerplant on board. It's 99g/km emissions figure will be a temptation to people buying a new Ceed for business use and so will its 74.3mpg official economy boast.

As standard all three engines are mated to a crisp-changing six-speed manual gearbox; a seven-speed auto is an option on the diesel and 1.4 petrol variants.

Eking our every last drop of fuel, Ceed's with a new ECO pack slip through the air more easily thanks to a flap that blanks out the radiator grille when there is no need for total engine cooling and lowered suspension and an underbody cover help too. So too do special tyres that take less effort to roll along the road.

The newcomer is available in four grades, starting with '2' and moving through Blue Edition and '3' to top out with the bells and whistles First Edition. Prices range from £18,295 for a 1.0 litre in '2' spec to £26,850 for a First Edition 1.4 with auto gears. Diesels start at £19,545 and 1.4 petrols at £21,095.

Even the entry level Ceed lacks for little, taking in cruise control, 16ins alloy wheels, electric windows all round, air conditioning, reversing camera, DAB radio, Bluetooth and Android Auto and Apple CarPlay.

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Rugged Ford Fiesta Active is an 'exciting lifestyle crossover'

By Sharon Walters

Ford latest crossover – the Fiesta Active – starts at a price of £17,790 with the jacked-up city car available in three variants – Active 1, Active B&O Play and Active X – and is in the firm's range alongside the Ka+ Active in "offering buyers an exciting lifestyle crossover".

It has the basic design of the latest version of the Fiesta, but all Active models will receive a rugged-look body styling kit, an increased ride height, roof rails, front fog lights and 17-inch alloy wheels as standard.

There's also three selectable drive modes – Eco, Normal and Slippery – along with Hill Start Assist. Other features included at no extra cost are lane-keep technology, automatic headlights, a heated windshield and rear privacy glass.

Ford's SYNC 3 infotainment system with Bluetooth connectivity features too, which also supports Apple CarPlay and Android Auto.

B&O Play models add more kit and get their name from 10-speaker Bang & Olufsen audio systems that feature, as well as aesthetic tweaks such as a black roof with matching rails.

There's also yellow highlights throughout the cabin, along with additional tech such as cruise control, rain-sensing wipers, illuminated cup holders and a 4.2-inch TFT instrument cluster with traffic sign recognition. Pricing for the B&O Play variants begins at £19,190.

The range-topping Active X brings partial leather upholstery, heated front seats, power-foldable door mirrors with puddle lights, a rear-view camera and parking sensors, as well as the addition of navigation and DAB radio to the SYNC 3 system. It's available from £20,290.

Two engines are on offer for the Fiesta Active. There's one petrol unit, a three-cylinder, turbocharged 1.0-litre motor that is available in four states of tune – 84bhp, 99bhp, 123bhp and 138bhp. A diesel option is also available. This is a 1.5-litre engine, developing 84bhp.

No matter the choice of engine, a six-speed manual gearbox features, while auto stop-start technology is included as well.



The Active X features partial leather upholstery



It has the basic design of the latest Fiesta

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ProPILOT helping drivers feel more secure

Scaredy cars: 1 in 5 UK drivers get the highway horrors

Ahead of a busy holiday weekend, almost a quarter of drivers say they have felt anxious on the motorways, according to research from Nissan.

The survey was conducted to highlight the benefits of ProPILOT, Nissan's advanced driver assistance technology which is available on both the UK's best-selling crossover, the Nissan Qashqai and the UK's best-selling EV, the Nissan LEAF.

39% of drivers admit they feel scared, nervous, uneasy or uncertain behind the wheel in general. Motorway driving is the second biggest skill the public feel they lack confidence in (21% of drivers), beaten only by the nation's fear of parking (27% of drivers).

The UK's least confident motorway drivers

1. London (27%)
2. Yorkshire and the Humber (26%)
3. East Anglia (25%)
4. East Midlands (24%)
5. West Midlands (23%)

Numerous aspects of motorway cruising knock UK driver confidences. These include:

- 55% are nervous when hemmed in between cars and lorries on multi-lane highways
- 48% said they are anxious about using the slip road to join or leave a motorway
- 43% cited a dislike of overtaking lorries or big vehicles
- 41% admitted to avoiding lane-changes
- 38% are afraid of colliding with another vehicle in their blind spot
- 29% worry about pulling into a lane the same time as another vehicle

Londoners are the most fearful of driving on motorways (26%), while the Welsh are the least nervous (14%). When it comes to generational differences, 18-24 year olds are least confident (26% of drivers), versus just 11% of those over 65.

Almost half surveyed believe that driver assistance technologies, such as Automatic Emergency Braking, and Intelligent Cruise Control, either would help or do help make them more confident.

Alex Smith, managing director, Nissan Motor (GB) Ltd. says: "As we head towards a busy weekend for the UK's motorway network, it's concerning that many motorists feel they lack confidence in the everyday aspects of multi-lane driving. Modern vehicle technologies, such as those developed under Nissan Intelligent Mobility, can play a key role in supporting a positive driver experience. It's encouraging that a large proportion of drivers recognise the impact these can have on their confidence at the wheel."

Nissan's ProPILOT is one of the most advanced assistance technologies on the road today that enhances a driver's control by assisting with steering, acceleration and braking.

By liberating drivers from some of the more mundane elements of motoring, ProPILOT can help to reduce fatigue and stress – particularly on motorways or during heavy traffic – and improve safety, enhancing overall control and confidence.



The Nissan Qashqai with ProPILOT

New powerplants for the E-Class and CLS ranges

By Sharon Walters

Mercedes-Benz has introduced a new selection of petrol and diesel engines for its entire range of E-Class and CLS models.

Starting with the E-Class, the E 450 4Matic is now available in the E-Class Coupé and Cabriolet line-ups, with prices starting at £50,900 and £55,395 respectively.

Replacing the E 400 4Matic, the E 450 4Matic uses an inline six-cylinder petrol engine with Mercedes-Benz's EQ Boost technology.

It produces 367bhp and 500Nm of torque, with an extra 22bhp and 250Nm available via the EQ Boost system, which uses a 48-volt inline starter-generator to enhance performance and refinement while also reducing fuel consumption.

The E 450 4Matic delivers a combined fuel economy of up to 32.1mpg on the Coupé – or up to 31.7mpg on the Cabriolet – and emits 202g/km of CO2.

This powertrain allows for a 0-60mph time of 5.4 seconds on the Coupé and 5.6 seconds on the Cabriolet, while both models have an electronically limited top speed of 155mph.

Replaced

Also on the E-Class Coupé and Cabriolet, the E 350 d 4Matic has been replaced by the E 400 d 4Matic. This 3.0-litre inline diesel engine produces 340bhp and 700Nm of torque.

Equipped with this powertrain, the Coupé achieves 0-60mph in 4.9 seconds, while the Cabriolet takes five seconds. Once again, both models have a top speed of 155mph.

Starting at £64,445, the new E 400 d 4Matic All-Terrain has been introduced to replace its E 350 d equivalent. This version of the 3.0-litre inline six-cylinder engine produces 340bhp and 700Nm of torque. The 0-60mph sprint is achieved in 5.2 seconds, with a top speed of 155mph.

The E 400 d 4Matic All-Terrain offers a high level of specification as standard, such as Air Body Control air suspension, Multibeam LED Intelligent Light System, panoramic sunroof, towbar, 360-degree camera, Air Balance package, Energising Comfort package and wireless smartphone charging.

Meanwhile, on the CLS 350 Coupé, an all-new four-cylinder petrol engine has been introduced. It produces 299bhp plus 400Nm of torque and has a belt-driven variant of the EQ Boost system, offering a further 14bhp and 150Nm.

This powertrain is capable of up to 39.8mpg and emits 162g/km of CO2. Equipped with it, the CLS can deal with 0-60mph in 5.8 seconds and hit a top speed of 155mph.

The models are available to order now and deliveries are set to begin in October.



The CLS Coupé now gets an all-new four-cylinder petrol engine



E-Class Coupé and Cabriolet models is now available with the E 450 4Matic engine

New Renault crossover 'secret' name

Renault's next crossover will be named Arkana, the firm revealed today with a new teaser image.

Set to be shown in full at the upcoming Moscow International Motor Show, the Arkana will join the highly competitive C-segment, which features cars such as the Mazda CX-5, Skoda Karoq and Kia Sportage.

The model's name is derived from the Latin word 'arcanum', which means secret. However, it's no secret at all that this is a big car for Renault in the Russian market.

The Arkana will be built in Moscow, and Russia will be the first country to market the crossover.

The French firm hasn't explicitly stated if and when the Arkana will be arriving in the UK, but has confirmed it will be introduced to 'global markets' following a 2019 release in Russia.

Should the Arkana join the UK Renault line-up, it will sit alongside the Captur and Kadjar in the French firm's SUV offerings – likely positioned between the two. The



firm already offers a crossover in Russia – the Kaptur – which shares a lot with the similarly named car available across the rest of Europe.

Little else is known about the C-segment

machine, with Renault keeping its design under wraps for now – although a preview image released in July suggests that it will use the firm's familiar corporate look.

There has been no word on technical

specifications or what to expect in terms of pricing for the Renault Arkana, but more information should follow the car's reveal on next week at the Moscow International Motor Show.



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15/15 Vaux Insignia 2.0 CDTi 140 EFi SRI
14/14 Vaux Insignia 2.0 CDTi 163 EFi Des Nav
16/16 Vaux Insignia 2.0 CDTi 170 EFi SRI Nav
13/62 VW CC 2.0 TDI 140 BMT
14/64 VW CC 2.0 TDI 140 BMT GT DSG
14/14 VW CC 2.0 TDI 177 R-Line
16/66 VW Passat 1.6 TDI 120 SE Bus
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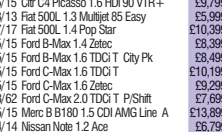
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15/64 Bmw 3 Touring 320d 2.0 xDrive M Sp
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11/61 Ford Focus Est 1.6 125 T
13/63 Ford Focus Est 2.0 TDCI 163 TX
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15/65 Merc CLA Shooting Brake 220 AMG S
15/65 Peugeot 2008 1.2 VTI Allure
15/15 Peugeot 2008 1.6 BlueHDi 120 Feline
14/14 Peugeot 2008 1.6 VTI 120 Feline Mistral
13/62 Ren Clio Tourer 1.5 dCi 88 Dyn TomT
14/64 Seat Leon Est 2.0 TDI 150 FR
15/15 Skoda Octavia Est 2.0 TDI 150 SE-L
17/67 Vaux Astra Est 1.4 125 SRI
17/17 Vaux Astra Est 1.6 CDTi 110 SRI Nav
15/15 Vaux Astra Est 1.6 VTI Elite
15/65 Vaux Insignia Tourer 1.6 CDTi 136 SRI
15/65 Vaux Insignia Tourer 1.6 CDTi 163 Elite
16/16 VW Golf Est 2.0 TSI 300 R DSG
16/66 VW Passat Est 2.0 TDI 150 GT DSG
14/64 Audi Q3 1.4 TFSI 150 S Line Comfort
16/66 Fiat 500X 1.4 Multiair Pop Star 2WD
15/65 Ford Kuga 2.0 TDCI 150 T App Pk
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15/15 Kia Soul 1.6 GDI Connect
13/13 L/Rover Range Rover Evoque 2.2 4WD
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15/15 Nissan Juke 1.6 Tekna Xtronic 2WD
15/15 Nissan Qash 1.5 dCi 110 N-Tec+ 2WD
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In Memoriam

FREEMAN

Dianne

August 25, 2016.

Can't believe it's been two years since you left us Di.

It is so unfair that you were taken so early but we will always treasure the memories of the happy times we had together.

Love you loads.

Andy, Jamie, Kate and Sophie.

X X X X

Deaths

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENT CUSTOMER INFORMATION

Please note that the deadline for our weekly Cannock Chronicle is 4pm every Friday, for the following weeks edition.

This is subject to change Bank Holidays.

Eg (4pm Thursday)

Please note that there are no longer reception facilities at Cannock office, for all your paid for advertising or Family Announcements please call 01902 317878.

BISHOP

Norman

(Nunk)

Passed away peacefully on August 14, 2018 aged 67. He will be sadly missed by his Family and Friends. Funeral Service to be held on Thursday, September 6, at 1pm, at Stafford Crematorium.

Donations in Nunk's memory are welcome in aid of Cancer Research UK. Inquiries to:



O'Malley Family Funerals
A truly personal service

DAVIES

June

Of Norton Canes.

Passed away in hospital on August 21, 2018, aged 84 years.

Reunited with her beloved Husband Alan and loving Mom of Melvyn, Linda and Sheila, also a dear Nan, Great-Nan, Auntie, Mother-in-law and Friend.

Service will be held at St. James' Church, Norton Canes, on Friday, September 7, at 10.45am, followed by Committal at Stafford Crematorium.

Family flowers only. Donations to The British Lung Foundation c/o Funeral Directors.

Funeral care has been entrusted to:

MAGUIRE
Family Funeral Directors
Brindley House
75 Broadhurst Green
Hednesford
01543 879866

ELLISON

John William Eric

Passed away peacefully Tuesday, August 14, 2018, aged 81 years.

Much loved and sadly missed by all his Family and Friends. His Funeral Service will be held at St. Thomas' Church, Huntington on Tuesday, September 4, 2018 at 10am, followed by Committal at Stafford Crematorium.

Family flowers only please. Donations in lieu of flowers can be made to support St Giles Hospice.

All inquiries

A.J. Sellman
Family Funeral Directors
70 Church Street,
Cannock, WS11 1EM
01543 502322

OWEN

Iris Beatrice

Sadly passed away Monday, August 20, 2018, aged 96 years.

A much loved lady.

Dearly missed by all her Family and Friends

Her Funeral Service will be held at St. Luke's Church, Cannock, on Tuesday, September 18, 2018, at 11am, followed by Burial at Cannock Cemetery.

Family flowers only please.

A donation in lieu of flowers can be made at the Funeral.

All inquiries

A.J. Sellman
Family Funeral Directors
70 Church Street,
Cannock, WS11 1EM
01543 502322

Acknowledgements

POTTS

William

Passed away peacefully Friday, August 3, 2018, aged 94 years.

His Funeral Service took place at Stafford Crematorium on Thursday, August 16. Myra and Family would like to thank everyone for their thoughts and kind wishes, and for the generous donations to support Cancer Research in Bill's memory.

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halliwellfuneralservices.com

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Birthdays

Paul Vermeer
Happy 60th Birthday



Love always
Jackie, Karla, Paul,
Marnie, Fallon,
Charlie
Ann & Frank
XXXXXXX

60

Silver Anniversaries

Shawn & Diane Elcock

Congratulations on your
Silver Wedding Anniversary

28th
August 2018



Love from Mum and Dad, Paul, Kim,
Carol, Ian & families xx

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1 Family

Elderly & Disabled



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2 Leisure Time

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www.castleviewpark.co.uk

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what's on

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Next Book Fair Sun 16th Sept Refreshments. 0121 550 4381

holidays

Caravan Holidays

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3 Home & Services

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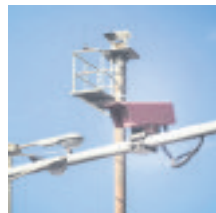
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4

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Pets Corner

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1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree. Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

5

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6

Property

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7 Jobs

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8

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9

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10

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Notice is hereby given that Staffordshire County Council on 28 August 2018 made an Order the effect of which is to prohibit any vehicle from proceeding along B4154 Lime Lane, Cannock. For more information regarding access arrangements, timings and diversion routes please visit <https://roadworks.org?tm=106091573>. The Order will come into operation on 3 September 2018 and the said works will commence on or as near as practicable to that date. It is anticipated the works will be completed by 7 September 2018. The Order will remain in force for a period of 18 months or until the laying of a BT duct works, which it is proposed to carry out on or near the road have been completed, whichever is the earlier.

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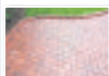
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JAYNE, 42yrs, very pretty brunette, stylish, fun, loves the 60s, fine wine/restaurants, seeks professional gent for mutual life enhancement. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431893

CAROLINE, 42yrs, sophisticated professional lady, bored with chaps from work, hoping to meet a burly workman! Come on lets have some good times. Txt me. Text Only. Box: 4164576

FIRST timer! Annette, 50s, passionate, loves cooking, life in general, rock music, WLTm mature male for friendship, togetherness, TLC, hopefully LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431707

JOAN, 61yrs, curvy busty lady. Own home. Looking to meet a gent of any age who appreciates a large lady. Text Only. Box: 4161032

LORNA 50s, slim female, 5ft 5ins, many interests, loves music, seeking romantic male to enjoy special times together, hopefully leading to true love. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431889

MEGHAN, bored, looking for some excitement. I am 48yrs, attractive with a curvy figure, blonde hair and well dressed. Hoping to meet chap of any age for romantic meetings. Text only. Box: 4132478

ANNA, 53yrs, attractive blonde lady, with lovely curves. Seeking man any age for no strings discreet fun. Tel: 0906 515 3043 Box: 429721

TINA, 44, fun loving single mum who enjoys most things in life, seeking happy guy with GSOH for meals in, dates out, possible romance and adult companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431845

JANET 42yrs, looking for handsome prince to spoil me in return for lots of good fun and well deserved uncomplicated attention. Discretion assured. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 432011

CLAUDETTE, sophisticated light skinned Caribbean lady. New to area & hoping to meet a white or Asian man for fun times. I am 42yrs but age is just a number. Text Only. Box: 4066199

CHRISSY 39 blonde, blue eyes, likes meals/days out, loves life and looking for someone new to share fun loving easygoing relationship, 30-50yrs. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431971

AMANDA, 36yrs, attractive lady. Solvent and well educated and spoken. Feminine figure with large breasts. Hoping to meet a broad-minded gent, any age for discreet relationship. I don't mind if you are married or single. ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3035 Box: 429287

BIANNA, petite female, 48, attractive, nice natured, sociable, many likes and interests, seeking independent male to share new interests, hobbies and lots of adult time. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431841

SUSIE, married, adventurous/dominant lady, 38yrs, seeks discreet man any age/area for no strings fun. Tel No: 0906 515 3011 Box: 431239

JEANETTE 35, blonde blue eyed attractive active nurse who really cares about people, WLTm someone genuine and honest to fall in love with. Any age/looks. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431703

KAREN, 46YRS, witty female who loves to laugh, WLTm similar male to share interests, romance, cosy nights in and more. Pls call. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431359

LYN 43, divorced very lonely single young looking, slim, attractive, WLTm similar male for companionship. Age/looks/Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 429909

JEANETTE 35, blonde blue eyed attractive active nurse who really cares about people, WLTm someone genuine and honest to fall in love with. Any age/looks. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431703

SINGLE lady, middle forties, animal lover, especially dogs as I have two, enjoys walks, pubs and travelling. WLTm genuine male. Text only replies. Mailbox no: 631612

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KATHY 38yrs, knows what she wants out of life, WLTm similar genuine male to wine/dine, enjoy travel, share ambitions and hopefully fall in love with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431583

DEBORAH lonely 40's female with no ties, GSOH, N/S, loves the simple things in life looking for similar soul mate to be happy together with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431525

ANGELA, 48yrs, seeks no strings casual fun. I have my own house, car and am solvent. I'm busty with a firm figure. You must be open minded, age/status unimportant. Tel: 0906 515 3015 Box: 427633

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KATHY 38yrs, knows what she wants out of life, WLTm similar genuine male to wine/dine, enjoy travel, share ambitions and hopefully fall in love with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431583

HELEN, attractive brunette, 54yrs. Varied interests, GSOH & kind personality. Hoping to meet genuine non-smoking gent. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431597

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MARY, tactile sincere lady. N/S. Varied interests, GSOH and very interesting. Hoping to meet a kindly gent to enjoy life's pleasures. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431605

ATTRACTIVE lady, late 40s, slim, busty blonde. Hoping to meet a man for winning, dining & more. Any age. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431607

GENUINE mature lady, attractive with own home. Seeks gent with GSOH who won't let me down. If you are nice and want to meet then call me. Lets find happiness. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431609

ATTRACTIVE lady, 60s, happy go lucky & fun to be with. Petite with dark hair & attractive features. Varied interests, dining out, puts, theatre, walking & reading. Give me a call or text, all replies responded to. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431417

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ANGELA, 57yrs young. Tall brunette with a bubbly personality. Loves fun. Hoping to meet a chap who can have adventures with me. Age unimportant. Lets live life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431615

DEBORAH lonely 40's female with no ties, GSOH, N/S, loves the simple things in life looking for similar soul mate to be happy together with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431525

HELEN, mid 50s naughty lady, seeks some fun times with gent, any age. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 424493

SHARON, mature dark haired lady. Smart & attractive. Seeking a gent for evenings out, dating, holidays etc. Call to hear more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431611

MARILYN, early 60s. Fit, GSOH, varied interests. Share your life with me? Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431411

Single Men

Hi my name is Steve. I live in Worcester and am a non-smoker, 5ft 7ins tall, stocky build, looking for a lady for discreet naughty fun. Please get in touch. Text only replies. Mailbox: 6224648

PHIL, single, looking to meet a lady. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431749

MALE 60s, WLTm mature lady for discreet meetings. Requires cuddles. Text only replies. Mailbox: 6394900

PAUL 55, please don't pass this advert by - read and see I am a genuine guy, slim, attractive, funny too, looking for lady, 40-60, like you. Text only replies. Mailbox: 4172082

I am P.J., 60-year-old single guy but look much younger, looking to date single girl. Just moved back to Birmingham area from Dublin. Text only replies. Mailbox: 6403520

JASPER, recently divorced gent of 53yrs. Own business, home, car, solvent etc. Hoping to meet a kindly lady for mutual kindness as I've been hurt. Single mums welcome. Text Only. Box: 4047235

MALE, mature, 72, fit, active, feels 50, looks 40, seeking fit lady, 65-70, genuine with a GSOH, for LTR. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431753

72 year old chap, young at heart, GSOH, enjoys walking, conversation and all things chocolate. Seeking female companion to enjoy the good things in life with. Text only replies. Mailbox no: 6375992

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WARM, loving gent, 70 years plus, likes gardening, country, tea dances, coach trips. WLTm a lady, any age, with similar interests. Looks are not important. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431719

JOHN, 59, looking for a friendly, honest person, some around 50ish, for going out, nights in and having a good time together. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431677

MALE, 50s, looking for a lady to have a long term 1-2-1 affair. Age/Looks unimportant. Text only replies. Mailbox: 6378322

SHAUN, 50, honest, reliable, OHOC, employed, animal lover, likes walks in the country, meets out in country pubs, walking my dogs, looking for my soul mate. If you would like to know more get in touch. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 427497

MATURE married man looking for no strings fun with mature lady, married or single. Text only replies. Mailbox no: 4267903

JIM, 56, married, very bored, looking for some excitement, I am a non-naughty and would like to hear from you. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431673

MATURE male looking for passionate times, any age, looks not important. Text only replies. Mailbox no: 4461540

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GAY attractive feminine female would like to meet other gay feminine females for friendship possible relationship. Get in touch. Text only replies. Mailbox: 6062854

MALE, 60, seeks black male, 25-80, for sincere friendship, outings, and cinema. Any area. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 431827

BI male, submissive, seeks discreet meets with male. Text only replies. Mailbox: 5560402

BI late 70s, WLTm Gay or BI for friendship. I can travel. Text only replies. Mailbox no: 6022718

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Denny lines up for latest title challenge

ROWLEY Regis fighter Tyler Denny takes on Reece Cartwright for the English Middleweight Title at Walsall Town Hall next month.

The Midlands Area champion, 27, a product of Old Hill Boxing Club in Cradley Heath, headlines BCB Promotions' latest Town Hall show on September 22 as he bids for national honours.

Co-challenger Reece Cartwright, from Leeds, has racked up 22 bouts at pro at the age of 24, with 21 wins and 12 TKOs to his credit.

The under-card features home favourite James Beech Jr, an undefeated super bantamweight prospect, 21 from Bloxwich. Another Walsall pugilist, Levi Ferguson, also features, while Ryan 'Stewart' Davies, a former kickboxer from Tividale, will be looking to rebound from his first pro defeat. Flyweight 'Pocket Rocket' Dani Hodges, from Burntwood, former national amateur champion Connah Walker, of Wolverhampton, and ex-kickboxer Troi 'the Hawk' Coleman completes the line-up.

For tickets, call the town hall box office on 0845 111 2900.

Noah earns call-up for Laser Run squad

A WOLVERHAMPTON teenager has been selected to be part of the Laser Run squad at the 2018 School Games. The national multi-sport event for the UK's most talented school-age athletes takes place at Loughborough University from August 30 to September 2.

Noah Sandland, aged 13, a student at the Ounsdale High School and is a member of the Black Country Triathletes, and will compete for the u-14's England Midlands squad in the Laser Run. He has previously competed in both the West Midlands and National Biathlon Championships.

More than 1,400 athletes will compete across 11 sports at the School Games. Laser Run is one of five new disciplines, along with canoeing and rowing, netball and triathlon.

Sandland will experience the excitement of competing at the highest level, living in a dedicated Athletes' Village on the Loughborough University campus, taking part in an School Games ceremony and performing in front of huge crowds of spectators.

Lions roar into action for inaugural contest

BIRMINGHAM takes centre stage for the first ever club-led international Women's American Football tournament this weekend.

After coming home from Finland with the inaugural Diamond Bowl trophy, Britain's quintuple champions Birmingham Lions, now hope to cement their position as an international force to be reckoned with.

From tomorrow (Friday), until Sunday, Lions welcome the New-York Sharks and Helsinki Wolverines to UK shores for the first ever Pro-Cloud Transatlantic Trophy. Matches will be held at the University of Birmingham, with New York Sharks and Helsinki Wolverines kicking off the tournament at 7.30pm tomorrow.

Defeated by the Lions in 2017, the Finnish outfit will be looking to even the score come 4pm on Saturday when the teams meet again. The hosts will then close proceedings against the Sharks, kick off 2pm on Sunday.

Fifty per cent of the tournament profits will go towards providing Critical Care Ambulances with the latest life-saving technology.

Joy for Ladies as they kick off 20th season

WALSALL LADIES Football Club have cause for celebration even before a ball is kicked this season after hitting another milestone.

The club, affiliated to the League One Saddlers, are about to embark on their 20th campaign as they continue to go from strength to strength under the guidance of the man who has been there from day one, chairman Brian Simpson.

The forthcoming campaign will see Walsall run a senior side in the Staffs County League and with teams at under-9, 11, 13, 15 and 16 age groups.

They also boast some impressive facilities on which to display their ball skills at West Walsall E-Act Academy, in Primley Avenue. The club and school have formed a winning partnership with a 3G pitch installed last year which is now used by all of the Walsall sides and the envy of their rivals.

The school has been the Ladies' home for more than a decade and the club played a leading part in bringing about the new facility. It was made possible thanks to a grant from the Premier League and The FA Facilities Fund, delivered by the Football Foundation.

Development

The then Saddlers goalkeeper Mark Gillespie helped to cut the ribbon on the new facility, along with Walsall Mayor Marco Longhi in August last year.

Meanwhile Simpson is delighted to see the Ladies club thriving, with a turnout of more than 250 people at the end of the season awards night providing further evidence they are on the up.

"Our first season was in 1999 and we are really proud of what we have achieved," said Simpson. "I can't think of another girls and ladies set-up around here that has been going so long.

"Over the years, firstly as Great Wyrley and now as Walsall, we have seen in excess of 1,000 girls and women play football for us.

SPORTING FEATURE

By Nick Elwell

"I keep saying I am going to step down and then something happens and I carry on. But I enjoy it and we are a football-mad family."

"We have had success with some of our girls gaining scholarships to play football in America and a couple progressing through the ranks and going on to play for England at various age groups.

"It's difficult at times because we have Wolves, Albion, Villa and Birmingham around us who all have academies.

"We have lost a couple more girls to academies this year and while we are obviously pleased to see them progressing, it can be a bit soul destroying at times when players you have had from the age of six move on at 14 or 15. But we keep going and keep working hard."

Indeed, there has been plenty of hard work from Simpson and his family over the years. He got involved with girls football when his daughter Donna played at Kidderminster, but the family links don't end there.

"I got involved when Donna was at Kidderminster and ended up running the side," he said. "Then when this club got up and running I took on the chairman role and my wife Christine was secretary.

"She did that until she passed away five years ago and Donna is secretary now. My son-in-law Neil is vice-chairman and my granddaughters are also involved. Alisha and Amelia play for the under-15s and under-9s, while the other one, Esme, will be starting to play soon.

"I keep saying I am going to step down and then something happens and I carry on. But I enjoy it and we are a football-mad family."

Creating a 'family feel' is key for Simpson and he believes it has been a key ingredient in the club's success.

Balance

"We had over 250 people at our end of season presentation night – it was a really good evening," he said. "There is a real family atmosphere here and a real bond between the officials players and parents.

"You have to get a good balance at a club. You can't take things too seriously. The girls have got to enjoy their football and the parents have to enjoy being part of the club as well," said Simpson.

More youngsters will be coming through the door this season after Simpson unveiled plans to start a 'Wildcats' section for girls aged between four and six.

At the other end of the age scale, Holly Gayler is in charge of the senior side along with Samantha Simpkins. "We want to run sessions for four to six-year-olds and they will run alongside our training sessions on Tuesday nights at the E-Act Academy," said Simpson.

"We are looking to the future and want to have sides running all the way through to the senior side.

"Girls football seems to be prospering at the young age groups although it's a lot more difficult to recruit from the age of 15 upwards.

"The senior side was reformed last year and finished just below mid-table.

"Holly has stepped in to form a management team with Sam, who wants to concentrate more on playing."

The club, which was afforded Charter Standard status in 2002, are looking for players for the forthcoming season and also anyone interested in sponsoring them. Anyone interested in joining the senior set up should contact Samantha Simpkins on 07872 830359.

For information on the club's other age group sides or sponsorship, contact Brian Simpson on 07817 785690 or email walsallladiesfc@gmail.com



Walsall's under-14s line up after a donation from the M6 Toll



Mayor Marco Longhi and ex-Saddler Mark Gillespie open the 3G facility

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Double boost for league on eve of season

THE Beacon Sunday Football League has received a double boost on the eve of the new campaign, writes Dave McLean.

A last-ditch plea to fill a team vacancy brought an immediate response with two new clubs joining the ranks of this popular afternoon league. The 2018-19 season will now start on Sunday with 19 teams – four more than the number that completed last season's programme.

It will enable the league to operate with two league competitions and three cup contests, starting with the Redbox Sigmakers Beacon Championship, featuring 10 clubs, and the new Paycare Development Division with nine.

The new term will also see a major boost in sponsorship.

While Redbox Sigmakers are extending their support for a third successive campaign, the new development section has attracted sponsorship from Wolverhampton-based Paycare.

Another new company signing up is The Sports Shop in Kingswinford, which will sponsor the Clinton Cup, while Concentric Sales and Lettings extends its ongoing backing. Meanwhile, NDT Midlands will again put its name to the Lester Charity Cup, and Wilkes Tranter Accountants of Kingswinford will again partner with the Chell Cup.

Opening day (Sept 2, kick off 2.15pm) fixtures: Redbox Sigmakers Beacon Championship – Beacon Lions v Sedgley & Gornal United, Dynamo Dudley v Claregate Park Rangers, FC Premier 2008 v Cannock United, Fiveways Inn v Kurdist United, Shere Punjab v Codsall Station; Paycare Development Division – AFC Sporting Gornal v Norton Canes, AFC Springfield v Coven United, Blomwich Rangers U21 v FC Premier U21, Penn Rovers v Trysull Tigers; Open date, Dudley Rangers.

Chasetown must try again after a late equaliser

Wednesfield 2 Chasetown 2
Emirates FA Cup

CHASETOWN will need a replay after being held in the FA Cup.

They felt they should have had a penalty after 15 minutes when Jake Lovatt had his shirt tugged as he was about to shoot for goal.

Wednesfield shocked their higher league opponents with the opening goal after 25 minutes, Kevin Nickle cutting in from the right wing and firing a left footer past Curtis Pond.

A minute before the break, Lovatt received the ball on the edge of the box but drilled his first-time shot wide.

Chasetown levelled nine minutes into the second half. A ball was played into Lovatt, who smashed a volley past Reiss Jeavons. Wednesfield were reduced to 10 men when Faybian Facey was sent off for violent conduct.

The Scholars came from behind and another through ball put George Cater clear of the last defender and he finished confidently. Wednesfield levelled with three minutes of normal time left, Nickle heading a cross past Pond.

Hednesford beaten again at home

Hednesford Town 1 Gainsborough Trinity 2

HEDNESFORD Town were left searching for their first home victory of the season after a goal in each half from Gainsborough Trinity saw the visitors leave Keys Park with all three points.

Hednesford started the better of the two sides, and Preston North End loan star Mike Howard stung the palms of goalkeeper Jon Stewart in the seventh minute before another loan man in Dan Cockerline saw a header saved four minutes later.

Gainsborough went close in the 17th minute when Ashley Worsfold hit the post before Cocker-

line fired over at the other end after good play by the Pitmen had helped tee up the striker.

Trinity almost made a breakthrough in the 36th minute, only for Charlie Gatter and Stefan Galinski to make two fine blocks.

The visitors took the lead two minutes later though when a free kick caught everyone out, and although Worsfold's first effort hit the post the striker fired home from a yard out.

In the 52nd minute the ball fell into the path of Worsfold but the striker saw his effort turned over by goalkeeper Josef Bursik. Two minutes

later the ball was in the back of the net but Alex Byrne was offside as he swept home.

A big chance fell to Hednesford in the 71st minute when Callam Mendez-Jones fizzed in an effort that was only half cleared. However, Galinski couldn't get any proper contact as the ball dribbled wide. Trinity struck next when Alex Simmons broke clear in the second minute of stoppage time before firing a shot into the roof of the net. Just when the game seemed over, Hednesford pulled a goal back when a cross from Matt Curley was palmed into his own net by Stewart.

BRAVE PITMEN ARE WELL AWAY

Farsley Celtic 1 Hednesford Town 2

A GOAL three minutes from time saw the Pitmen claim their second away win on Monday as they ended Farsley Celtic's unbeaten start to the season.

Hednesford went ahead 60 seconds into the second half when Jed Davies took aim from 35 yards, the ball flying over keeper Ed Hall for an early goal-of-the-season contender.

The lead lasted until the 77th minute when the home side were awarded a penalty after Matt Curley fouled Nathan Turner. Up stepped Will Hayhurst, who sent Josef Bursik the wrong way.

However, Hednesford would not be denied their winner as a scramble in the penalty area saw the ball fall to Jermain Hollis, who fired into the back of the net from 12 yards – much to the delight of the travelling support.

Elsewhere in the Northern Premier, Stafford Rangers had to settle for a 1-1 draw at home to Mickleover Sports, despite Kyle Perry heading home Joe Cuff's cross in the first half.

Looking

Boro were pegged back just shy of the hour mark when former Villa midfielder John McGrath – now player-manager at Mickleover – saw his free kick take a deflection and hit the post and bar before crossing the line.

A goal in each half condemned Rushall Olympic to back-to-back bank holiday defeats as they went down 2-0 against Tamworth in Southern Central. Former Stourbridge winger Chris Lait scored in the 12th minute, but the Pies weren't finally seen off until Tristan Dunkley netted in stoppage time against his former club.

Chasetown are still looking for their first win of the season in Northern One West after coming back from 2-0 down to draw 2-2 with Kidsgrove Athletic. Josh Sedgley's cross-shot got the Scholars back in the game before skipper Jack Langston drilled home the equaliser.

Kidderminster Harriers beat Stockport County 2-1 in National North thanks to goals from Joel Taylor and ex-Walsall man James O'Connor.

Staffs boys bag the T20 spoils



Selfie time for the Staffs Clubs men after their final success

THE Staffs Clubs stars shone under the floodlights to upset the odds and claim the Black Country Floodlit T20 spoils.

The league's representative side outplayed Birmingham League Premier outfit Wolverhampton in the final to round off another hugely successful week for the popular competition.

Spinner Dave Stibbon bagged the man-of-the-match award after picking up three wickets as Wolverhampton fell for 125 before half-centuries from Faizan Khan and Jimmy Howell saw Staffs to a nine-wicket success.

And to cap a fine five days for the Staffs Clubs XI, skipper Howell walked away with the Most Valuable Player accolade.

Not even an unwanted shower on final night could put a dampener on proceedings as the competition continues to go from strength to strength.

Staffs Clubs and Wolverhampton had overcome the challenge of Brewood, Stourbridge, Halesowen and hosts Himley to earn a shoot-out for silverware.

Himley stalwart Greg Wright – the man who came up with the idea of a floodlit competition nine years ago – was delighted to see a new name on the trophy.

"It's great to have new winners of the competition and I was really pleased for the Staffs Clubs boys," he said. "They were really up for the competition and got better and better as the week progressed."

Akbar stars in 19-run win for Hawks

C&R Hawks beat Streetly by 19 runs in a match reduced to 24 overs per side in the Birmingham League division two.

Saqib Akbar blasted 65 from 43 balls as Hawks reached 191-7, while Imran Qadir cracked 55 from 36 balls for Streetly who ended on 172-7.

An unbeaten 145 from Rana Hassan and 58 from Attiq Chishty eased Penkridge to 263-4 from 50 overs at Astwood Bank, who responded with 213 all out.

At 33-7, in reply to Stratford-upon-Avon's 146-6, the game looked as though it had gone for Milford Hall in division three. However, an unbeaten 64 from skipper Kevin Royce and 34 from Chris Dean saw the Staffordshire club to a two-wicket victory. Marlon Lokenath hit an unbeaten 59 as Redditch totalled 193-7 against Lichfield, who in reply were 12 runs short on 181-9.

Zak Shingler's half-century, 43 from Connor Shingler and 40 not out from Will Fleet took Cannock to 206-5 declared against Bloxwich, who claimed a draw with 120-6 in reply. Omar Ali was the star of the show in a 113-run run for Whittington over Coseley. Hammerwich (167 all out) fell to a 60-run defeat against Springvale (227-9).

Andrew Le Feather hit 83 for Rugeley in a total of 145 but Beacon soon knocked off the runs. Armitage won by 137 runs against Wombourne, and Elford beat Burntwood St Matthews.

On Monday, Penkridge increased the pressure on the two sides above them with an easy eight-wicket win over Coventry & NW. C&R Hawks were all out for 147 against Fordhouses, who cantered to a seven-wicket win.

New players wanted for 6-a-side leagues

A NEW season is starting in the Burntwood 6-a-side leagues – and teams are urged to join now before the last few remaining places are snapped up.

The award winning leagues, based at Burntwood Leisure Centre on Sundays, are looking to expand. All matches are refereed by qualified officials and all equipment is provided with profits donated to Cancer Research, Dogs Trust and Blind Children UK.

Anyone who wants to join the 6-a-side leagues in Burntwood can do so by ringing 0333 123230 or visiting www.leisureleagues.net/league/burntwood-leisure-centre/burntwood-sunday

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Cannock & Rugeley

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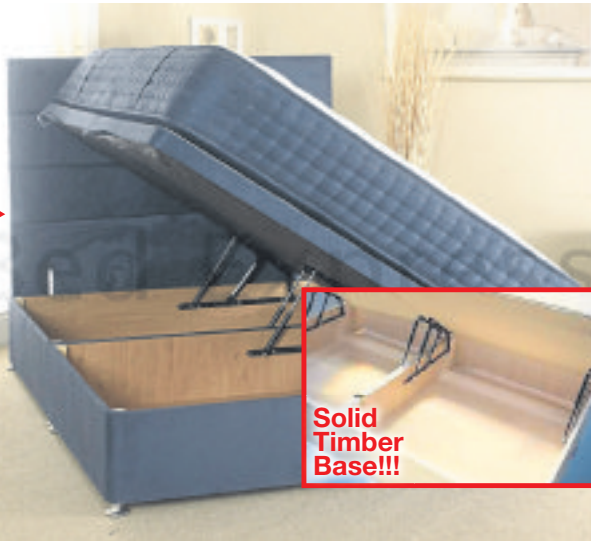
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